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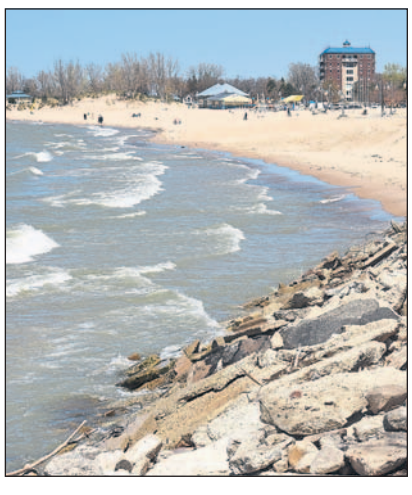

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Coalition lays out 'Berrien ReOpens'

Plan promotes steps for businesses to restart as safely as possible

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

A coalition of Berrien County organizations representing health care, government and economic development are joining forces to assist companies in a restart of the local economy.

The coalition group released a proposed framework Thursday that's being referred to as Berrien ReOpens, which showcases best practices to help companies return to business in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The group consists of leaders from the Berrien County Health Department, Berrien County, Kinexus Group, Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber and Cornerstone Alliance.

"It is important for businesses and workplaces to reopen in a manner that maintains the health and safety of our community," said Nicki Britten, a health officer for the Berrien County Health Department. "We continue to monitor data and will be able to identify if we need to adjust course."

Britten said adherence to the health practices outlined in the plan will provide the best chance of maintaining the flattening of the curve.

The framework has several components, including businesses creating a preparedness and success plan, a workplace coordinator, establishing responsibilities for supervisors and employees, and implementing workplace preventative measures.

Since the coronavirus hit the region in March, Kinexus Group President and CEO Todd Gustafson said the economic damage has been enormous.

"We are seeing unemployment numbers that we have not seen since the Great Depression," Gustafson said.

It's estimated that the real unemployment numbers in Berrien County are in the 14 to 18 percent range.

Gustafson said key job sectors have been hit hard.

Among the 71,000 people employed in the county, nearly 19,000 are in the six most vulnerable sectors – manufacturing, retail, restaurants and bars, transportation, entertainment, and personal services. In some of these sectors, 40 to 50 percent of workers are out of work.

Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber President Arthur Havlicek said gaining confidence with consumers will be the key to successfully reopening the economy.

"Nearly three-quarters of our economy is driven by consumer spending, which is exactly why we need to highlight best practices for area businesses," Havlicek said.

The chamber has promoted small businesses with a social media campaign called "Buy Local Berrien!" Created at the beginning of the

See **PLAN**, page A10

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Mark Rutherford, owner of CrazeVR in St. Joseph, has started to use 360-degree cameras to create virtual tours of businesses and real estate.

See a need, fill a need

Craze VR adapts during pandemic by adding virtual tours to list of services

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — A St. Joseph virtual reality gaming and entertainment company is expanding its services in an effort to help businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic.

CrazeVR is adding virtual tours to its list of services as online interactions and virtual meetings have become increasingly regular the past two months.

Owners Mark and Stephanie Rutherford decided to diversify their business after real estate agents began looking for options to expose their clients' listings.

That's when the Rutherfords created CrazeVR Virtual Tours.

"We do virtual reality, so it seemed like sort of a smart move. I've been doing photography and videography for awhile," said Mark Rutherford.

With social distancing restrictions in place, Rutherford said he wanted to fill a need by bringing a home or place to them.

With no-contact options available, the entire property

See **CRAZE VR**, page A10

After the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of his business, Mark Rutherford began to market his virtual reality skills to real estate and construction companies.

Manufacturing gets go-ahead; stay-home order extended

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Thursday that auto and other manufacturing workers can return to the job next week, further easing her stay-at-home order while extending it through May 28 because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Manufacturers – which account for 19 percent of the state's economy – can resume operations on Monday, which is key for auto parts makers a week ahead of automakers' planned phased-in May 18 restart. Factories must adopt measures to protect their workers, including daily entry screening and, once they are available, the use of no-touch thermometers.

"As we've done the risk assessment, we feel comfortable that with these safety protocols, we can safely reengage," Whitmer told reporters. "This is truly good news for our state."

Manufacturing will be the third major industry to fully reopen in the span of five days. Construction and real estate restarted on Thursday.

The Democratic governor, whose emergency powers are being challenged in court by the Republican-led Legislature, lengthened the shelter-in-place order to last nearly two more weeks in a state where more than 4,300 people have died from COVID-19 complications and where 1.3 million workers have filed for unemployment over seven weeks. The restrictions had been scheduled to expire May 15.

The state reported 93 additional deaths Thursday and 592 more confirmed cases, bringing the case total to about 45,600. The field hospital in a downtown Detroit convention center no longer has patients and has officially closed, Mayor Mike Duggan said.

While the rate of spread of disease is slowing, we still have spread in many parts of the state," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, the state's chief medical executive, who continued to urge people to not go out unless it is necessary.

"We are still safer at home," said Whitmer, who outlined six stages in which the economy will be reopend. The state, she said, is in the third, "flattening" stage. If hospitalizations continue to drop and cases and deaths rise less rapidly, small gatherings and some office and retail work could be allowed in the next stage.

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, of Clarklake, said Whitmer "released a Powerpoint that brings us no closer to understanding her decision-making."

The order continues to limit travel, except for certain reasons like caring for a family member. Asked what she would say to people who want to visit their moms over Mother's Day weekend, the governor said to send a card, do a Zoom video call and "go big" later when gatherings are OK again.

Michigan, home to the Detroit Three carmakers, has about 630,000 manufacturing workers who

See **WHITMER**, page A10

COVID-19 testing site to open at Walmart in Benton Township

By HP STAFF

BENTON TOWNSHIP — A third COVID-19 testing site in Berrien County will open Friday at the Walmart in Benton Township.

It will test adults who meets CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested, including first responders, health care providers and others with symptoms of COVID-19 and those in high risk groups without symptoms, according to a news release from Walmart and Quest Diagnostics.

The site, at 1400 Mall Drive, is set to be open 7-9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays weekly, weather permitting.

There is no out-of-pocket cost for individuals to be tested.

Getting tested will require an appointment through Quest's online portal and app, www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com, which will screen and schedule appointments for people who meet medical eligibility for testing and are 18 years and older.

Once on site, those being tested will need to wear a mask and stay in their cars for verification of eligibility criteria and an ID check.

Those being tested will use a self-administered nasal swab test to swab their own nose onsite while in their vehicles, observed by Walmart pharmacists and associates trained to ensure the sample is taken correctly, according to the news release.

The swab will then be dropped into a sealed container and Quest Diagnostics will handle processing the test, communicating results to those tested and the Berrien County Health Department. Test results are usually ready in about 2-3 days, according to the news release.

The test site is not available to those who walk up, and tests are not available inside the store.

For questions and more information, call Quest's dedicated COVID-19 line at 866-448-7719, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The county's other testing sites are at the Spectrum Health Lakeland Center for Outpatient Services, 3900 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, and at InterCare, 800 M-139, Benton Harbor.

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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High 49 Low 41

6 50645 49085 0

Bug experts dismiss worry about 'murder hornets' as hype

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

Insect experts say people should calm down about the big bug with the nickname "murder hornet" – unless you are a beekeeper or a honeybee.

The Asian giant hornets found in Washington state that grabbed headlines this week aren't big killers of humans, although it does happen on rare occasions. But the world's largest hornets do decapitate entire hives of honeybees, and that crucial food pollinator is already in big trouble.

Numerous bug experts told The Associated Press that what they call hornet "hype" reminds them of the 1970s public scare when Africanized honeybees, nicknamed "killer bees," started moving north from South America. While these more aggressive bees did make it up to Texas and the Southwest, they didn't live up to the horror-movie moniker. However, they also do kill people in rare situations.

This time it's hornets with the homicidal nickname, which bug experts want to ditch. "They are not 'murder hornets.' They are just hornets," said Washington Agriculture Department entomologist Chris Looney, who is working on the state's search for these large hornets.

The facts are, experts said, two dead hornets were found in Washington last December, a lone Canadian live nest was found and wiped out last September and no live hornets have yet been seen this year.

Looney has a message for Americans: These hornets are not coming to get you. "The number of people who are stung and have to seek medical attention is incredibly small," he said in an interview.

While its nickname exaggerates the human health threat, experts said this hornet is especially big – two inches long – so it does carry more and stronger toxin.

University of Illinois entomologist May Berenbaum said of the worry: "People are afraid of the wrong thing. The scariest insect out there are mosquitoes. People don't think twice about them. If anyone's a murder insect, it would be a mosquito."

Mosquitoes are responsible for millions of yearly deaths worldwide from malaria, dengue fever and other diseases, according to the World Health Organization. Asian giant hornets at most kill a few dozen people a year and some experts said it's probably far less.

For bees and the people who rely on them for a living this could be yet another massive problem, but it is not one yet.

The number of U.S. honeybees has been dropping for years, with the winter of 2018-19 one of the worst on record. That's because of problems such as mites, diseases, pesticides and loss of food.

The worry for beekeeping in Washington is based on a worst-case scenario that officials have to take seriously, Looney said.

LOTTERIES

Thursday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
JC-5C-9C-3S-9S
Midday Daily 3
6-6-3
Midday Daily 4
7-9-6-0
Daily 3
5-9-5
Daily 4
5-8-3-9
Fantasy 5
03-17-20-22-37
Keno
04-06-08-11-13-16-23-29-36-42-48-50-55-57-59-60-65-70-74-75-79-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$231 million
Powerball jackpot
$68 million

Wednesday drawings

Michigan
Powerball
07-08-35-50-65, Powerball: 20, Power Play: 4
Indiana
Cash 5
06-10-16-18-42
Cash4Life
09-17-21-25-34, Cash Ball: 1
Lotto Plus
03-06-09-12-19-39
Quick Draw Midday
01-03-05-10-12-13-26-27-31-33-44-46-47-48-50-53-55-64-71-76, BE: 5
Daily Three-Midday
4-1-8, SB: 2
Daily Three-Evening
1-3-8, SB: 9
Daily Four-Midday
9-4-0-8, SB: 2
Daily Four-Evening
9-2-8-5, SB: 9
Quick Draw Evening
03-05-06-07-14-23-33-34-36-38-40-48-52-57-65-66-69-70-73-76, BE: 69
Hoosier Lotto
01-02-24-32-37-40
Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
19-22-33-38-44
Pick Three-Midday
6-2-1, Fireball: 9
Pick Three-Evening
6-9-7, Fireball: 5
Pick Four-Midday
1-5-2-9, Fireball: 6
Pick Four-Evening
4-0-7-3, Fireball: 5
Lucky Day Lotto
01-13-14-23-25

– The Associated Press

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U.S. faces 'truly daunting' challenges on needed COVID tests

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

Anna Moneymaker / The New York Times via AP, Pool

A monitor displays video feeds from members of the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee via teleconference during a Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee hearing on new coronavirus tests on Capitol Hill in Washington on Thursday. National Institutes of Health Director Dr. Francis Collins, looks on at right.

WASHINGTON — Despite a massive effort, the nation faces "truly daunting" challenges to deploy millions of coronavirus tests to safely re-open the economy, the head of the National Institutes of Health told lawmakers Thursday.

NIH Director Francis Collins told the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee that government and private industry have launched a $2.5 billion, taxpayer-funded effort to develop, manufacture and distribute technology capable of accurately testing millions of people a week by the end of the summer or the fall, before the annual flu season.

Widespread availability of testing is seen as critical to reopening the economy because it would allow public health officials to identify and contain a rebound of the virus. It remains a high bar to clear.

"I must tell you, senators, that this is a stretch goal that goes well beyond what most experts think will be possible," Collins said. "I have encountered some stunned expressions when describing these goals and this timetable to knowledgeable individuals. The scientific and logistical challenges are truly daunting."

Nonetheless, Collins said "the track record of American ingenuity" gives him optimism. More than three months into the epidemic, the lack of testing is widely acknowledged as a central failing in the nation's response.

The issue has dogged the White House for weeks. President Donald Trump takes credit for the fact that testing has ramped up dramatically since the early days of the outbreak, when a test from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ran into numerous problems.

But sometimes he also seems uneasy about testing.

"We do, by far, the most testing," he told reporters on Wednesday. "If we did very little testing, we wouldn't have the most cases. So, in a way, by doing all of this testing, we make ourselves look bad."

The U.S. is currently testing more than a million people a week for COVID-19 and White House coronavirus adviser Dr. Deborah Birx has said that weekly number should rise to 2 million or 2.5 million by the middle of June.

But some experts say a million tests per day are needed, or more.

"To test every nursing home, and every prison, everyone in an operating room, and some entire classes and campuses and factories, teams at sports events, and to give those tests more than once, we will need millions more tests," agreed committee chairman Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn. "This demand will only grow as the country goes back to work."

Congress provided NIH with $1.5 billion to develop tests. To help private industry quickly produce and distribute tests that meet NIH standards, lawmakers gave another $1 billion to the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority. Known as BARDA, that agency is under scrutiny after its director alleged he was ousted for opposing widespread use of a malaria drug promoted by Trump to treat coronavirus patients.

Collins said the goal is to have highly accurate tests that can provide quick results at the "point-of-care," such as a doctor's office or a community health clinic. A special effort is being made to expand testing in minority communities that have taken the brunt of virus deaths.

Many of the currently available tests require processing by a central laboratory to get results. Medical technology giant Abbott already has a point-of-care test available. But Collins said there's a limited supply of the machines, and that they can sometimes fail to detect a patient who is positive. He said Abbott is working to improve its test, but that he thinks NIH might be able to do better.

NIH has set up what Collins calls a "shark tank" process to quickly identify promising technologies, and test them. Within the agency, the initiative is formally called Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics, or RADx. It was launched just last week.

NIH scientists, along with their counterparts in industry and academia, are looking into tests that can use different types of samples, from nasal swabs, saliva, blood, or exhaled breath.

They're also looking at antigen tests, a form of rapid test that can detect active infection. With time and effort such tests can be modified to be done at home, Collins said, but accuracy has traditionally been a problem.

NIH has received more than 1,000 applications putting forth different ideas.

Trump administration buries detailed CDC advice on reopening

By JASON DEAREN and MIKE STOBBE
Associated Press

Alex Brandon / AP file

President Donald Trump speaks about the coronavirus in the James Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House in Washington, as Dr. Deborah Birx, White House coronavirus response coordinator, listens, on April 16. The Trump administration has shelved a set of detailed documents created by the nation's top disease investigators meant to give step-by-step advice to local leaders deciding when and how to reopen public places during the pandemic.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The Trump administration shelved a document created by the nation's top disease investigators with step-by-step advice to local authorities on how and when to reopen restaurants and other public places during the still-raging coronavirus outbreak.

The 17-page report by a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention team, titled "Guidance for Implementing the Opening Up America Again Framework," was researched and written to help faith leaders, business owners, educators and state and local officials as they begin to reopen.

It was supposed to be published last Friday, but agency scientists were told the guidance "would never see the light of day," according to a CDC official. The official was not authorized to talk to reporters and spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity.

The AP obtained a copy from a second federal official who was not authorized to release it. The guidance was described in AP stories last week, prior to the White House decision to shelve it.

The Trump administration has been closely controlling the release of guidance and information during the pandemic spurred by a new coronavirus that scientists are still trying to understand, with the president himself leading freewheeling daily briefings until last week.

Traditionally, it's been the CDC's role to give the public and local officials guidance and science-based information during public health crises. During this one, however, the CDC has not had a regular, pandemic-related news briefing in nearly two months. CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield has been a member of the White House coronavirus task force, but largely absent from public appearances.

The dearth of real-time, public information from the nation's experts has struck many current and former government health officials as dangerous.

"CDC has always been the public health agency Americans turn to in a time of crisis," said Dr. Howard Koh, a Harvard professor and former health official in the Obama administration during the H1N1 swine flu pandemic in 2009. "The standard in a crisis is to turn to them for the latest data and latest guidance and the latest press briefing. That has not occurred, and everyone sees that."

The Trump administration has instead sought to put the onus on states to handle COVID-19 response. This approach to managing the pandemic has been reflected in President Donald Trump's public statements, from the assertion that he isn't responsible for the country's lackluster early testing efforts, to his description last week of the federal government's role as a "supplier of last resort" for states in need of testing aid.

A person close to the White House's coronavirus task force said the CDC documents were never cleared by CDC leadership for public release. The person said White House officials have refrained from offering detailed guidance for how specific sectors should reopen because the virus is affecting various parts of the country differently. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

Asked Thursday about the CDC report, White House coronavirus adviser Dr. Deborah Birx said: "No one has stopped those guidelines. We're still in editing." She told CNN, "It was more about simplification."

The reopening guidance was described by one of the federal officials as a touchstone document that was to be used as a blueprint for other groups inside the CDC who are creating the same type of instructional materials for other facilities.

The guidance contained detailed advice for making site-specific decisions related to reopening schools, restaurants, summer camps, churches, day care centers and other institutions. It had been widely shared within the CDC and included detailed "decision trees," flow charts to be used by local officials to think through different scenarios. One page of the document can be found on the CDC website via search engines, but it did not appear to be linked to any other CDC pages.

Some of the report's suggestions already appear on federal websites. But the guidance offered specific, tailored recommendations for reopening in one place. For example, the report suggested restaurants and bars should install sneeze guards at cash registers and avoid having buffets, salad bars and drink stations. Similar tips appear on the CDC's site and a Food and Drug Administration page.

But the shelved report also said that as restaurants start seating diners again, they should space tables at least 6 feet apart and try to use phone app technology to alert a patron when their table is ready to avoid touching and use of buzzers. That's not on the CDC's site now.

"States and local health departments do need guidance on a lot of the challenges around the decision to reopen," said Dr. Marcus Plescia, chief medical officer of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. "You can say that restaurants can open and you need to follow social distancing guidelines. But restaurants want to know, 'What does that look like?'"

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hp LOCAL & STATE

United Way awarded annual funds for food, shelter programs

CARES Act provides extra $85,000 this year

By HP STAFF

ST. JOSEPH — The United Way of Southwest Michigan has been awarded $60,143 to distribute to area emergency food and shelter programs this year.

Each year Berrien County is granted these funds under the Federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP/FEMA). This year is Phase 37.

The EFSP/FEMA program was also appropriated supplemental funds under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act this year.

Berrien County was granted another $85,746 for Phase CARES.

Those interested in applying for some of these funds can submit requests for funding to the United Way no later than 5 p.m. May 20. Applicants must apply for each phase separately.

A local board of community members and the United Way will determine, based on current need of the communities, how the funds are awarded and distributed to emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area.

Under the terms of the previous grant from the Emergency Food and Shelter (FEMA) National Board, local governmental or private voluntary organizations chosen to receive funds must:

- Be a non-profit organization;
- Have a formal accounting system and conduct an annual audit;
- Practice nondiscrimination;
- Have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food, emergency financial assistance and/or shelter programs;
- Maintain a minimum number of weekly hours with a staff person or a volunteer;
- Have a voluntary board if a private voluntary organization;
- Use funds on an ongoing basis to supplement and extend food and shelter services, not as substitute for other program funds or to start a new program;
- Must maintain detailed records and documentation of program expenses if awarded an allocation. Also, it is preferable that applying organizations have an automated tracking system to monitor client use;
- Be able to certify that they are not debarred or suspended from receiving federal funds.

This assistance is made possible by the National Board, chaired by the Emergency Food and Shelter/ Federal Emergency Management Agency. United Way of America serves as the fiscal agent to the National Board.

Funding is based upon 12-month unemployment rates, the total number of unemployed, number of individuals below the poverty level, and the total population of Berrien County. The National Board will issue grants to local organizations which are recommended for funding by the local board.

To receive basic program information and application, visit www.uwsm.org/efsp.

GREAT PLACE FOR A WALK

Don Campbell / HP staff

A visitor to the Galien River County Park walks along the 600-foot boardwalk Wednesday afternoon. The 86-acre park near New Buffalo features a canopy walkway leading to a 60-foot high Marsh Overlook Tower and is open daily, dawn until dusk.

Keeping the kids busy

South Haven area students get coloring books with local subjects

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — Approximately 750 South Haven area students will receive something extra today with their lunches; something that may give them a chance to have fun at home while waiting out the state's coronavirus-related stay-at-home order.

It's a small coloring book, but not just any coloring book. "Color the Town" consists of nine black and white drawings of South Haven landmarks and is part of a collaborative effort to encourage youngsters to use their creative talents while learning about their hometown.

"The idea started with Deb Davidson, our city Downtown Development Authority director," said Scott Reinert, executive director of the South Haven Visitors Bureau. "She reached out to me with the concept and thought it would be a fun idea for our local children when the school year was canceled and kids would be home for the rest of the school year."

Reinert discussed the idea with his staff, who all gave the go-ahead to proceed.

"Our designer Jen Sistrunk did all the artwork," Reinert said. "We talked through several local attractions that we thought would make sense to feature, then Jen used actual photos from our photo library to create the line drawings."

But how to get the coloring pages to the children during the state-at-home order?

"I reached out to Carey Frost, South Haven Public Schools' curriculum director, about the idea and maybe using the school lunch bus distribution system to deliver to students," Reinert said.

Frost, who was already planning to distribute crayons, paper, pencils and other school supplies to students in grades K-8, via the lunch bus distribution system, liked the idea.

"We were excited to hear from the Visitors Bureau because I was looking for something fun to include with the bags of school supplies," Frost said. "Their timing was perfect! It's nice to be able to give them something fun to work on in addition to their regular school work."

Youngsters will recognize most of the landmarks in the book, including the historic South Haven Center for the Arts building, the historic former bank building that now houses Clementine's restaurant, South Haven's lighthouse and catwalk, the Friends Good Will tall ship and Michigan Theater's Marquee.

Kerry Hagy, executive director of the South Haven Center for the Arts, was impressed with the drawings.

"Jen Sistrunk did an amazing job creating the coloring pages," Hagy said. "The coloring sheets are minimalist and open to fun interpretations."

To provide an extra incentive for students to color in the drawings, the art center plans to exhibit some of the works in an upcoming exhibition, either online or in the art center's actual gallery.

"We hope to be able to display at least one of the drawings from all of the students that submit entries," Reinert said.

Plans for the exhibit at the art center are still being firmed up.

"We do not yet know when we will display the work at the art center," Hagy explained. "We are currently in the process of rearranging our exhibition schedule for the year, (due to the stay-at-home order) but will wait to announce anything new on the schedule until we know we will be open."

In addition, each student who takes part in the Color the Town project will have the chance to win a gift card to Rocket Arcade in South Haven.

"We will randomly be selecting 25 entries to receive a $20 gift card," Reinert said.

Youngsters have until May 26 to submit their entries and can do by mailing them to South Haven Center for the Arts, 600 Phoenix St., South Haven, MI 49090, or by dropping their finished artwork in a box on the bus that drops off their meals, or they can email them to relax@southhaven.org. Youngsters need to include their name, address and age with their entries.

Entries can also be dropped off at the art center once it reopens. Gift card winners will be announced June 10. All youngsters in the South Haven area, regardless of whether they go to South Haven Public Schools, can participate in the coloring book project. Pages for the book can be downloaded from the art center website or the visitors bureau website.

"I cannot wait to see people's work," Hagy said.

Record high levels projected for Lake Michigan this summer

April level surpasses previous monthly record by 3-4 inches

By CHRISTINE FERRETTI and EVAN JAMES CARTER
The Detroit News

DETROIT — Lake Michigan and Huron will see water levels rise 10 inches above average levels recorded at the same time last year and 2 inches higher than the highest monthly average on record for May.

The forecast came as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Detroit found new record high monthly mean water levels were set on lakes Michigan and Huron, St. Clair and Erie.

Water levels forecast for May 1 were above their levels of one year ago for lakes Michigan, Huron, St. Clair and Erie, while lakes Superior and Ontario are below last year's levels, according to the Army Corps.

The levels on lakes Michigan and Huron, which are measured as one body of water, and St. Clair and Erie are predicted to be 10, 2, and 3 inches, respectively, above their levels last year.

The rising lake levels and the threat of the loss of lake-front property have homeowners "scrambling," said Keegan McManes, who owns Morrison Lake Construction, a seawall building company out of Clarksville.

"If you lost 30 to 40 feet of beach and you only had (an) 100-foot yard, you might not have any yard left," he said.

Once lakefront property is lost to the lake, McManes said, state environmental regulations restrict what homeowners can do to reclaim the land.

The lake level projections signal that Michigan property owners could continue to combat bluff and shoreline erosion, damage to coastal infrastructure and flooding. The rising lake levels represent long-term challenges for a region that has faced swings of the lakes' extreme highs and lows.

Levels surged in the 1980s before dropping sharply in the 2000s.

"We're so busy ... it just seems like we can't keep up," McManes said. "It's just devastating what some of these homeowners are going through. ... Unfortunately, it's quite expensive (to install a seawall)."

The latest high-level reports from the Army Corp follow record or near-record levels set on the Great Lakes last year.

For April, new record high monthly mean water levels were set on Lake Michigan and Huron, St. Clair and Erie, according to a May report from the Army Corps.

The levels, the report found, surpassed previous records by 3-4 inches, which were set in 1986 on Lakes Michigan, Huron and St. Clair, and in 1985 on Lake Erie.

Lakes Michigan and Huron will trend upward beginning in May. Rising levels are expected through August before dipping in September and October, according to the Corps' projections.

All of the lakes experienced a rise in water levels from March to April. Lake Superior rose 2 inches from March to April, while Lakes Michigan, Huron and St. Clair rose 3 inches. Lakes Erie and Ontario also rose by 4-6 inches, respectively, from March to April.

The Corps has been emphasizing higher lake levels to be better prepared given record-breaking water levels in 2019.

Water levels on lakes Erie and Superior set records for four months straight going into the fall. Lake St. Clair also set all-time highs for several consecutive months.

"(Homeowners are) faced with do 'I lose my house, or do I spend a fortune to save my shoreline,'" McManes said. "It's just tough just to keep up and to be able to keep up with all this work for customers who are kind of between a rock and a hard place."

In-person meeting deemed essential for Hartford City Commission

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

HARTFORD — The Hartford City Commission will become one of the first bodies in Southwest Michigan to meet again in person since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

City Clerk RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht said the in-person meeting set for Monday night was deemed essential to discuss and approve ballot language for the August election, and because city commissioners and staff do not have the technology to run an effective electronic meeting for all commissioners and staff required to attend.

The ballot language is for the city's fire millage, which needs to be renewed in August. The deadline to submit ballot language is Tuesday.

Monday's meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall, 19 W. Main St., Hartford.

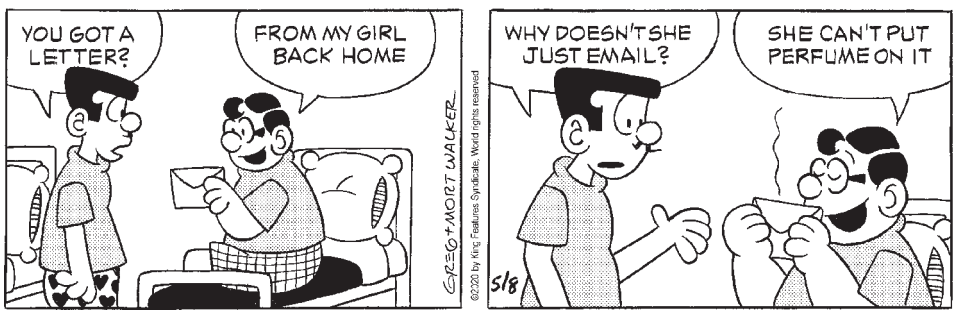
Rodney-Isbrecht said the room is set up to practice social distancing as much as possible.

She said city staff are still investigating ways for the public to observe/call into the meeting if people do not feel comfortable attending in person.

In addition to the fire millage, items on the agenda include approving the city's recreational marijuana ordinance, plus holding a public hearing on the city's 2020-2021 budget.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

BEETLE BAILEY


YOU GOT A LETTER?
FROM MY GIRL BACK HOME
GREG + MORT WALKER
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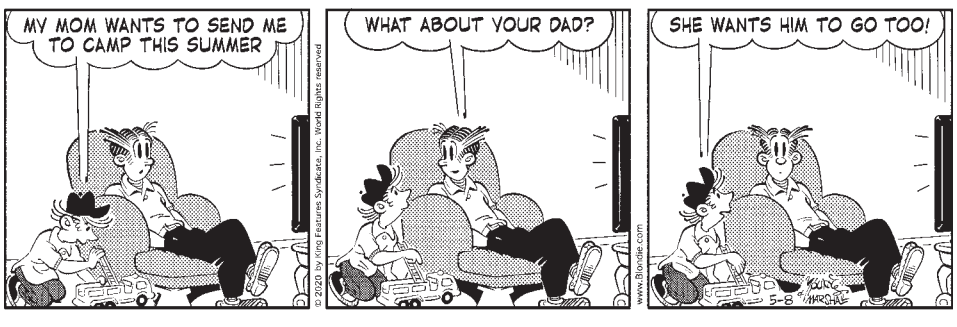
WHY DOESN'T SHE JUST EMAIL?
SHE CAN'T PUT PERFUME ON IT
5/8

BLONDIE


MY MOM WANTS TO SEND ME TO CAMP THIS SUMMER
WHAT ABOUT YOUR DAD?
SHE WANTS HIM TO GO TOO!
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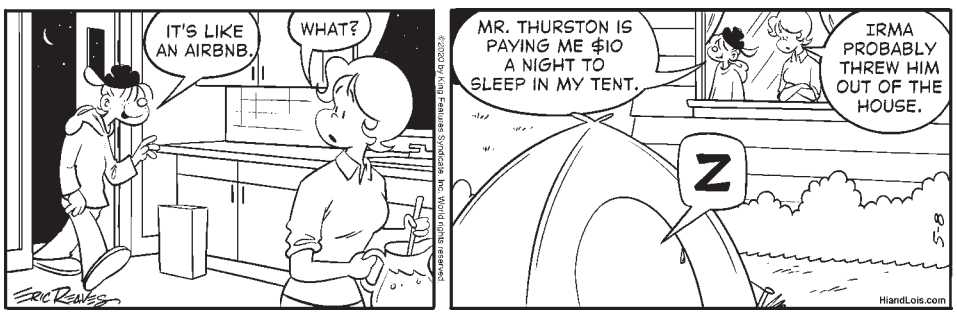
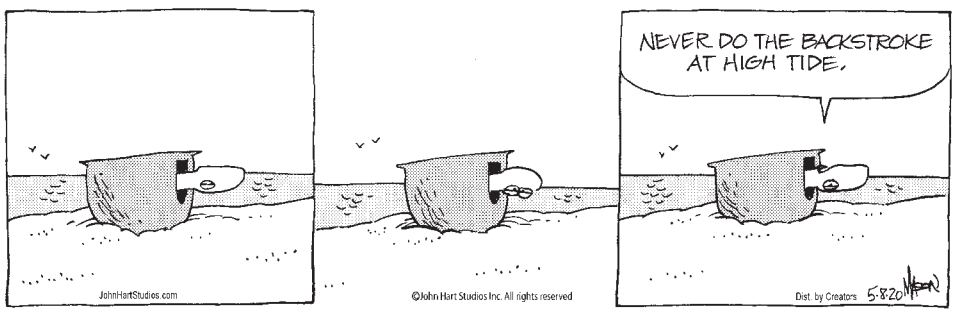
www.Blondie.com
5-8

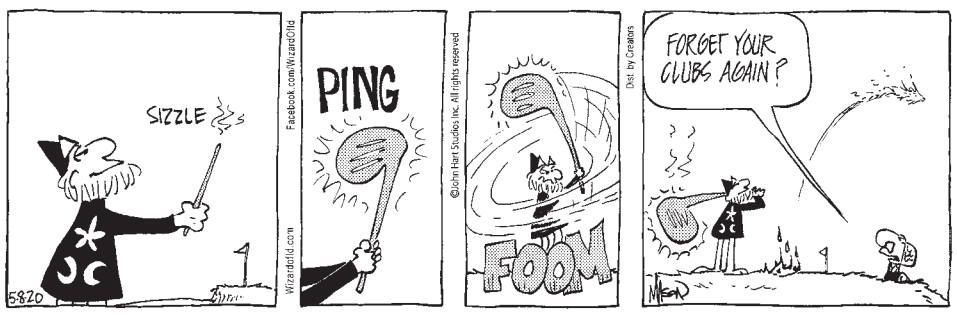
HI & LOIS



BC



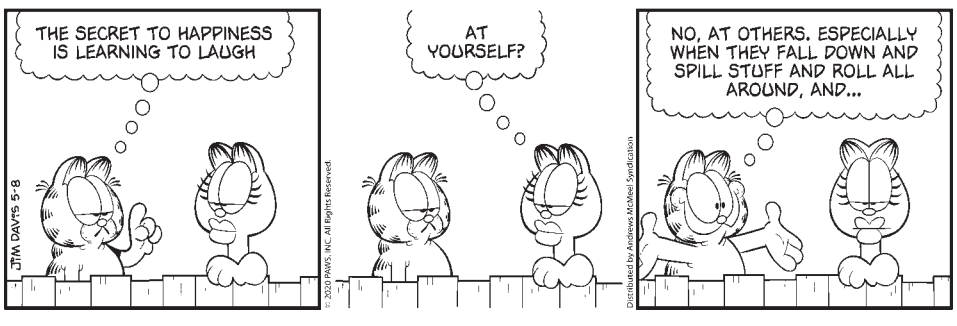
WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT

ACCORDING TO OUR NEWEST DATA, 100% OF THE PEOPLE WHO UPGRADED TO VERSION 2.0 OF OUR SOFTWARE DIED THE SAME DAY.
100%
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
BUT WE DON'T THINK IT MEANS ANYTHING BECAUSE ALL OF THEM HAD UNDERLYING HEALTH ISSUES.
HOW DID THEY ALL HAVE UNDER-LYING HEALTH ISSUES?
VERSION 1.0 HAD SOME ROUGH EDGES, TOO.
5-8-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD


THE SECRET TO HAPPINESS IS LEARNING TO LAUGH
AT YOURSELF?
NO, AT OTHERS. ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY FALL DOWN AND SPILL STUFF AND ROLL ALL AROUND, AND...
JIM DAVIS 5-8
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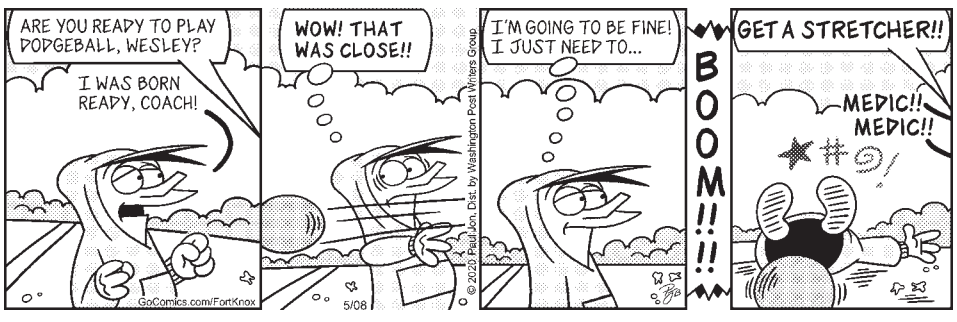
FORT KNOX


ARE YOU READY TO PLAY DODGEBALL, WESLEY?
I WAS BORN READY, COACH!
WOW! THAT WAS CLOSE!!
I'M GOING TO BE FINE! I JUST NEED TO...
BOOM!!!
GET A STRETCHER!!
MEDIC!! MEDIC!!
GoComics.com/FortKnox
5/08
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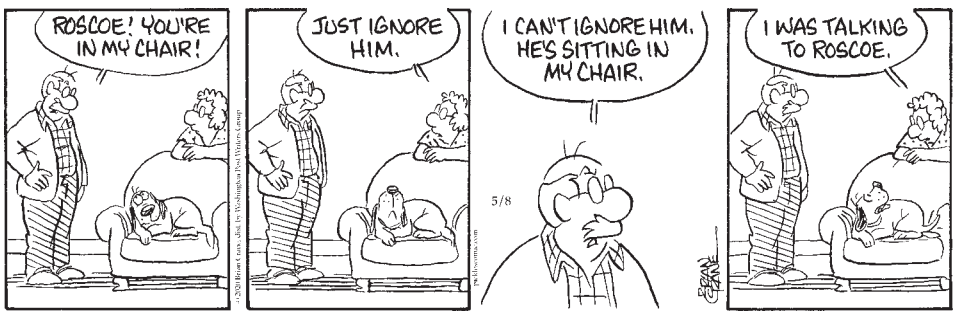
PICKLES


ROSCOE! YOU'RE IN MY CHAIR!
JUST IGNORE HIM.
I CAN'T IGNORE HIM. HE'S SITTING IN MY CHAIR.
I WAS TALKING TO ROSCOE.
5/8
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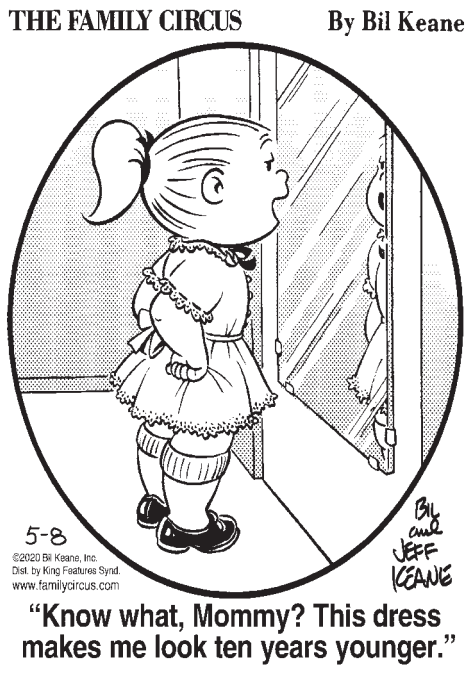
FAMILY CIRCUS


THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
5-8
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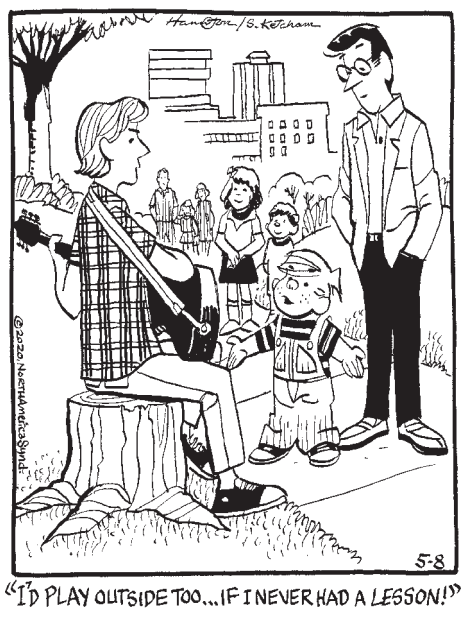
www.familycircus.com
BIL and JEFF KEANE
"Know what, Mommy? This dress makes me look ten years younger."

DENNIS THE MENACE



BABY BLUES

COME ON, GUYS! LET'S GO!
I'M TIRED OF GETTING STUCK IN THE BACK SEAT!
BUT IT'S SAFER FOR YOU TO RIDE BACK THERE, ZOE.
I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH RIDING BACK HERE...
...I'M JUST TIRED OF GETTING STUCK!
HEY! YOU FOUND MY GUM!
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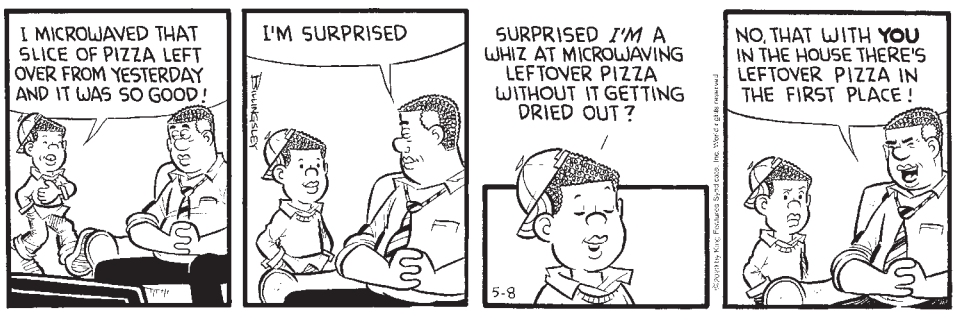
CURTIS


I MICROWAVED THAT SLICE OF PIZZA LEFT OVER FROM YESTERDAY AND IT WAS SO GOOD!
I'M SURPRISED
SURPRISED I'M A WHIZ AT MICROWAVING LEFTOVER PIZZA WITHOUT IT GETTING DRIED OUT?
5-8
NO, THAT WITH YOU IN THE HOUSE THERE'S LEFTOVER PIZZA IN THE FIRST PLACE!
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ZITS

SARA WANTS ME TO DELETE ALL MY OLD GIRLFRIENDS FROM MY CONTACTS.
SO...?
SO, IT'S UNREASONABLE, IT'S PERSONAL, AND IT'S LABOR-INTENSIVE!
WAIT- YOU'RE MAD ABOUT MAKING ONE EDIT?
NOT THE POINT!
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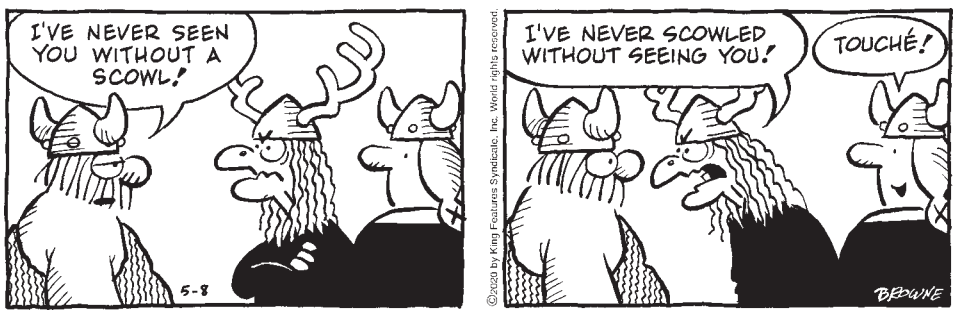
zitscomics.com

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE


I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU WITHOUT A SCOWL!
5-8
I'VE NEVER SCOWLED WITHOUT SEEING YOU!
TOUCHÉ!
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BROWNE

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

DID YOU KNOW HE WAS A WEREWOLF BEFORE YOU MARRIED HIM?
5/8
FRISBEE
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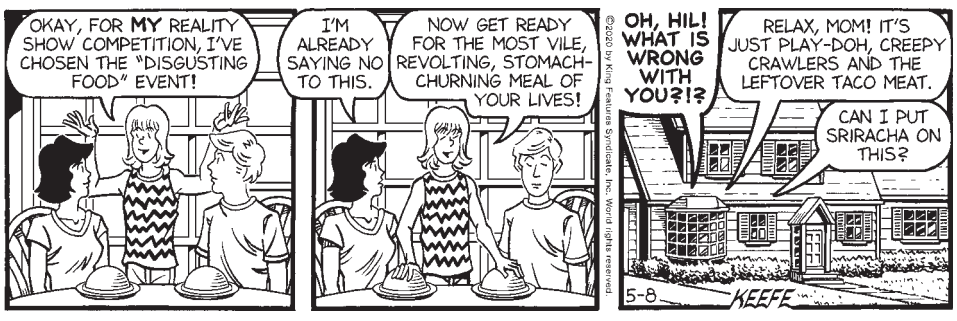
MIKE PETERS

MUTTS

SALLY FORTH


OKAY, FOR MY REALITY SHOW COMPETITION, I'VE CHOSEN THE "DISGUSTING FOOD" EVENT!
I'M ALREADY SAYING NO TO THIS.
NOW GET READY FOR THE MOST VILE, REVOLTING, STOMACH-CHURNING MEAL OF YOUR LIVES!
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OH, HIL! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!?
RELAX, MOM! IT'S JUST PLAY-DOH, CREEPY CRAWLERS AND THE LEFTOVER TACO MEAT.
CAN I PUT SRIRACHA ON THIS?
5-8
KEEFE

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@HPBenSanders

Maxwell Harden
@HPMaxwellHarden

Ben Spencer
@HPBenSpencer

PRIME TIME TV

FRIDAY EVENING MAY 8

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7)(13)(41)(57)	Wheel of Fortune	Shark Tank A far-out textiles brand. (N)		:01 20/20 (N) CC			
CBS (2)(3)(22)	Ent. Tonight	MacGyver "Save & The & Dam & World"		Magnum P.I. "May the Best One Win"		Magnum P.I. (N) CC	
NBC (5)(8)(16)	Ac. Hollywood	The Blacklist "Roy Cain" (N) CC		Dateline NBC (N) CC			
FOX (17)(22)(28)(32)	Modern Family	WWE Friday Night SmackDown (N) (L)				Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS (34)	Overheard	Washington Week	Firing-Hoover	Together-PBS	Great Performances "LA Phil 100" LA Phil's 100th birthday.		
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Masters of Illusion: Impossible Escapes		Dynasty "My Hangover's Arrived"		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT (50)	Family Feud	Chicago P.D. "Fallen"		CSI: Miami A bizarre case baffles the CSIs.		CSI: Miami Eric Delko returns. CC	
WCIU (26)	Mike & Molly	Masters of Illusion: Impossible Escapes		Dynasty "My Hangover's Arrived"		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME (46)	:00 Heartland	Heartland Lou's life in Dubai.		Highway to Heaven "The Source" CC		Nightly News	
WGN (9)	News	black-ish	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	5:00 Live PD CC	Live PD: Rewind (N) CC		Live PD "Live PD -- 05.08.20" (N) (L) CC			
AMC	:00 ★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94, Drama) Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman. CC					Friday Night In	Erin Brock
Animal	TBA	Tanked: Sea-Lebrity Edition (N)				To Be Announced	
BET	6:00 Little Man			★ Blue Streak ('99) Martin Lawrence. CC			
Big Ten	Michigan	B1G		Michigan Basketball	Michigan Basketball		Big Ten
Bravo	To Be Announced			To Be Announced			
Cartoon	Gumball	American	American	American	Rick	Rick	Burgers
Cinemax	Cost of a Soul ('10)	★★ The Eagle ('11, Action) Channing Tatum, Jamie Bell, Donald Sutherland. CC				9:55 ★★★ The Hurt Locker ('08)	
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	CNBC	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
CNN	OutFront	Cuomo Prime Time		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Amy Schumer	
Discovery	Gold Rush	Gold Rush (N) CC				:02 Bering Sea Gold CC	
Disney	Zombies Sing-Along		:40 Zombies 2: Sing-Along			Gabby	Coop
DIY	Beach	Beachfrnt Reno		Beachfrnt Reno		Beachfrnt Reno	
E!	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Mysteries	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
ESPN	SportCtr	★★ Invincible ('06) Mark Wahlberg, Greg Kinnear.					
ESPN2	WSOP	2019 WSOP		2019 WSOP		2019 WSOP	
ESPNC	Baseball	MLB Baseball				MLB Baseball	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	The Roar	Detroit Tigers Classics From May 7, 2011.				Michigan	Focused
Freefrm	6:00 Matilda	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
FX	6:00 Minions	★★ Despicable Me 3 ('17) Voices of Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker. CC				★★ Minions ('15) Jon Hamm CC	
Golf	:00 PGA Tour Golf					Seve: The Movie	
Hallmark	Love, of Course	Snow Bride ('13) Katrina Law. A tabloid reporter falls for a politician's son. CC				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	:00 ★★★ Friday Night Lights ('04) Billy Bob Thornton.			REAL Sports With Bryant Gumbel		Real Time With Bill Maher (N) CC	
History	Aliens	Ancient Aliens		:02 Ancient Aliens		:05 Ancient Aliens	
HGTV	Dream	Dream	Dream	Dream	Dream	Dream	Dream
Learning	90 Day	90 Day Fiancé: Before the 90 Days (N)				90 Day	90 Day
Lifetime	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens
MSNBC	Decision	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	:00 ★ Blended ('14) Adam Sandler.				Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Sports	Chicago Bulls Classic (N)					Immortals
NFL	NFL Total	Path To the Draft		2020 NFL Scouting Combine CC			
Nick	Cloudy With Meatballs			Dylan	Sponge.	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Lockup	Lockup: San Antonio		Lockup: Louisville		Lockup: Fairfax	
Oxygen	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets Uncovered (N)		Cold Justice CC		Cold Justice "Mother" CC	
Parmt	Two Men	★★★ Hacksaw Ridge ('16) Andrew Garfield. (P). CC					
Showtime	6:15 Superbad	:15 ★★ Mile 22 ('18, Action) Mark Wahlberg, Lauren Cohan, Iko Uwais. CC				Boxing CC	
Starz	Vantage Point ('08)	★★ Zombieland: Double Tap ('19) Woody Harrelson. CC			:42 ★ Dude, Where's My Car? ('00) Ashton Kutcher. CC		
STZENC	:21 ★★ Johnson Family Vacation ('04, Comedy) CC			★★ Boomerang ('92, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Halle Berry, Robin Givens. CC			
SyFy	5:55 ★★ Pitch Black ('00) CC		:25 ★★★ Mad Max: Fury Road ('15, Action) Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron. CC (DVS)				
TBS	:00 ★★ 50 First Dates ('04) Adam Sandler. CC (DVS)			★★★ Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana. CC (DVS)			
TCM	The Seventh Veil	★★★ The Last Time I Saw Paris ('54) Elizabeth Taylor, Van Johnson. CC				:15 ★★★ Mister Roberts ('55) CC	
TMC	6:15 Wildlife	★★ I Feel Pretty ('18, Comedy) Amy Schumer, Michelle Williams. CC				The Professor ('18) Johnny Depp.	
TNT	:00 Bones	★★ The Accountant ('16) Ben Affleck.					2 Guns
Travel	Paranorm.	Paranormal Ca.		Paranormal Ca.		Paranormal Ca.	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men
USA	6:30 ★★ The Fast and the Furious		:45 ★★ 2 Fast 2 Furious ('03) Paul Walker. Two friends and a U.S. customs agent try to nail a criminal.				
VH1	RuPaul	RuPaul's Drag Race (N) CC			RuPaul's Drag Race CC		
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing

Coronavirus antibodies used in two new ways

DEAR DOCTOR: I heard on the news about a coronavirus medicine made with blood from people who were sick and got better. But my husband says it's actually a blood test to see if someone ever had the virus. Who's right?

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier Ask the Doctors

DEAR READER: You and your husband are both correct. Two different uses for antibodies have recently been greenlit by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

You're referring to an experimental treatment that was approved on March 24 for very limited use. Your husband is talking about a quick and simple blood test approved by the FDA on April 2. The test, which is already in use in other parts of the world, reveals whether or not someone has been infected with the novel coronavirus. The treatment and the test each rely on antibodies, which are blood proteins that the immune system produces during and after its fight against a foreign invader, such as a virus or bacterium.

Let's start with the therapy you're asking about. It's based on the idea that, when introduced to antibodies used to fight a specific pathogen, a sick person's immune system will produce those very antibodies. This type of treatment has been in use since the 1890s for diseases such as polio, SARS, Ebola and the H1N1 flu. The idea of using it to treat COVID-19 arises from a very small pilot study – just six men and four women – recently conducted in three hospitals in China.

Each of the patients, who were gravely ill with COVID-19, received a single dose of antibodies gathered from the blood of patients who had recovered from the illness. According to the published research, the treatment resulted in improved oxygen levels and a shorter duration of symptoms in all 10 patients. Most improved within one to three days after receiving the antibodies. The patients also cleared the virus from their bodies more quickly than those who did not receive the treatment. This sounds promising, but it's important to note that the FDA approval limits treatment to patients who are so ill that they have no other options, and to clinical trials.

The antibody test that your husband is referring to is much closer to a wide release. It uses a pinprick of blood and delivers results in about 15 minutes. Unlike the diagnostic test for COVID-19, which identifies genetic material from the virus itself, this test looks for the antibodies that will be present only if the body has already encountered and fought off the virus. This is valuable information on two fronts. First, widespread use of the antibody test will give scientists a clearer picture of the spread and reach of coronavirus infection in the U.S. Just as important, the test hints at a potential path forward after the height of the epidemic has passed. People who have been exposed to the virus may have some degree of immunity, which would allow them to safely rejoin normal daily life. The challenge here is that, at this time, how much immunity is granted by prior infection, and how long that immunity may last, is not yet known.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Unhealed after husband's emotional cheating

DEAR CAROLYN: Can you please outline for me what I need from my husband concerning his emotional cheating? Three years out, I still feel it's unresolved. When asked why he chose to shut me out and open up to another woman – half his age – he has said repeatedly he doesn't know. He has never been one for introspection. I am not sure he knows how.

Carolyn Hax

He has acknowledged what he did, has said he is extremely sorry, has said he didn't connect what he was doing to its potential to hurt me. But we had been growing distant for a while beforehand.

As time passes, and as my requests for him to say more on the subject go unanswered, I don't know what to do. – Unhealed

UNHEALED: I think you've gotten all from your husband on this that you're going to get.

He didn't hurt you on purpose. He's sorry he did it. He's not introspective. He won't become so upon request.

There's no more juice in this lemon.

So, whatever you still need to feel better will have to come from you.

That can be couple's counseling, to explore the distance and not just the indiscretion. The introspection issue isn't going away.

And/or it can be supplying your own understandable "why." Such as: You and he had grown distant (it happens); he's human (it's messy); he was attracted to youth and novelty (it's the oldest story there is).

Maybe true, maybe not, but it certainly makes sense.

And things that make sense, to my mind, are things on their way to being forgiven. If you can understand that he felt lonely, caved to temptation and had no conscious harmful intent, then you can see his behavior wasn't an attack, it was a lapse. One he recognized and renounced as he recommitted to you.

If you can embrace that, then I hope you can also see that your path with your husband now leads forward, with optimism, instead of looping back continuously to mistakes three years ago that you can't undo.

If you're not able to embrace this idea, if your mind keeps going back, then I urge you to seek counseling. Getting stuck on traumatic events is also a common human experience – for which therapists are trained to help.

DEAR CAROLYN: Help. I tend toward introversion, preferring quiet times with a few friends. How do I gracefully decline invitations that I know will cause me anxiety? I recently told a friend and neighbor, in response to her invitation to play a game I despise, that I love her and would love to see her but don't want to play.

For all my life I have pushed myself to fit in and participate in activities when I didn't want to, all the while wishing for the time when I could leave. Now, at 58, I just don't want to do that anymore.

Where is the line between honoring my need for quiet and being a misanthrope? – Should Have Been a Librarian

SHOULD HAVE BEEN A LIBRARIAN: Good for you.

Your answer was graceful and clear. I'd only add this: After you decline, suggest something you'd rather do: "How about a walk tomorrow?"

By the way – librarians have to interact on demand with all people who demand it. You probably made the right choice.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

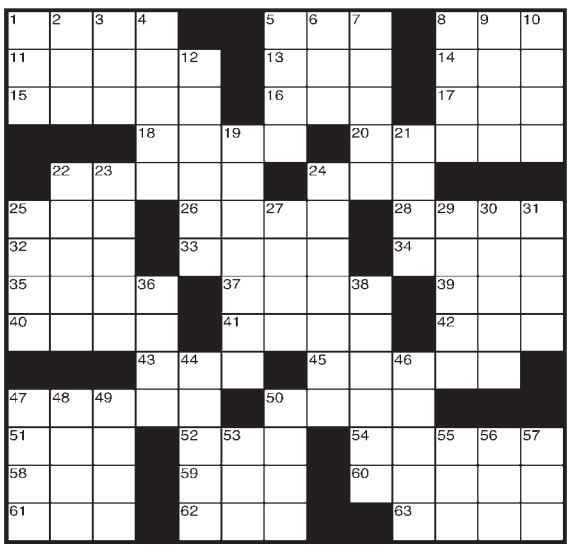
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Endure
5 Say please
8 Undercover agent
11 Soothe
13 Untruth
14 Large parrot
15 San — Padres
16 Coffee brewer
17 Peeve
18 Mild cheese
20 Pulls
22 Computer device
24 Fall behind
25 — Gatos
26 Do dock work
28 Grasp
32 Ltd. cousin
33 Long, tiring walk
34 Range in Asia
35 Actor — Connery
37 Abrasive particles
39 Gross!
40 Fiery heap
41 Pulpit
42 Notch shape
43 Belief
45 Strode along
47 Hot pepper
50 Himalayan legend
51 Race the engine
52 Earth, in combos
54 Rink gear
58 Age
59 Newsstand buy
60 Time periods
61 Whey-faced
62 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
63 Use FedEx

DOWN
1 Roll of bills
2 Yale athlete
3 Frothy brew
4 Stormed about
5 Pickling ingredient
6 Hitchcock's title
7 Mombasa's country
8 Peel
9 Incidental benefit
10 Tibetan oxen
12 Alpine refrains
19 Dental filling
21 — Khan
22 Dough
23 Famed statuette
24 Easy to read
25 Speech imperfection
27 Campus housing
29 Relish tray item
30 Tightened
31 Sea wall
36 Simon or Diamond
38 Foot, slangily
44 Greek letter
46 Long spears
47 Work party
48 Jealous goddess
49 Dr. Pavlov
50 Berra of baseball
53 Pitcher handle
55 Sigh of content
56 One more than "bi-"
57 Sixth sense

Answer to Previous Puzzle

	D	R	A	K	E			C	H	O	R	E
B	E	A	T	I	T		G	O	A	D	E	D
R	E	C	E	D	E		S	M	U	D	G	Y
A	M	E	N	D		D	U	E	L			
				O	M	N	I		S	T	A	N
		S	P	A		R	A	T	E		H	U	E
S	W	I	R	L	S			C	L	O	G	S
H	E	N	C	E			N	O	O	S	E	S
O	D	E		I	N	F	O		P	E	R	
P	E	S	T		O	A	R	S				
			O	D	I	N		A	L	E	T	A
A	T	O	N	E	S		O	L	I	V	E	R
R	A	P	T	L	Y		R	E	S	E	N	T
E	X	T	O	L			K	M	A	R	T	



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JUMBLE

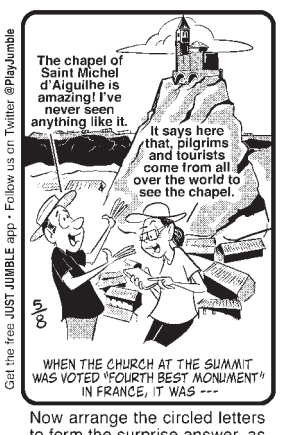
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PREIG

HRITS

PEPRAA

BIDYRH


The chapel of Saint Michel d'Aiguilhe is amazing! I've never seen anything like it.
It says here that, pilgrims and tourists come from all over the world to see the chapel.
WHEN THE CHURCH AT THE SUMMIT WAS VOTED "FOURTH BEST MONUMENT" IN FRANCE, IT WAS ---

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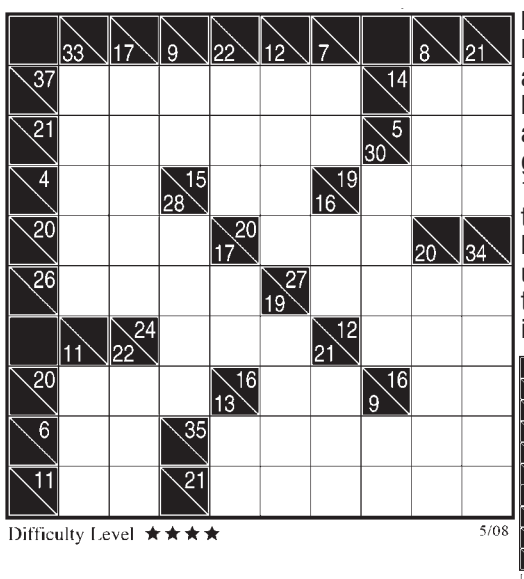
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

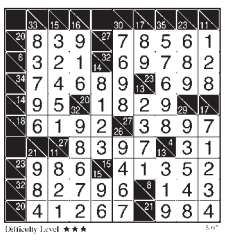
Yesterday's Jumbles: CLING KNELT HIATUS SCENIC
Answer: Campers at the remote campground were able to build a campfire — IN THE STICKS

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/08

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/07

BRIDGE

Which sitcom had the largest viewing audience ever for its final episode?

Which character in that show would have made a good bridge player?

In today's deal, after South opened with a strong no-trump, it would have been unsound for West to enter the fray with two spades, which requires at least a six-card suit (unless it shows a spade-minor two-suiter). North's raise to two no-trump indicated 9 points and was game-invitational. South, with a maximum 17 and three lovely aces, had an automatic raise to game.

West led the textbook spade six: two, jack, king. Declarer led a heart to the dummy and ran the club queen. West, who enjoyed living dangerously, ducked! However, as West anticipated, declarer repeated the club finesse at trick four.

What did West do next? Clearly the spade suit was a nonstarter. The play to the first trick had shown declarer to be holding the A-K-10. What about the point-count? North had 9, West 12 and South presumably 16 or 17. That left just 2 or 3 for East. The only useful card East could hold was the diamond queen.

Having worked this out, West led the diamond king: four, three, seven. That three looked mighty discouraging, but where was the two? Not being dissuaded from his path, West cashed the diamond ace: five, two, eight. So East was encouraging with an echo (a high-low) after all! West led his third diamond, East cashed two tricks in the suit, and declarer had to concede defeat by one trick.

North 05-08-20
♠ 5 2
♥ K Q 6
♦ J 9 5 4
♣ Q 10 9 6

West
♠ Q 8 7 6 3
♥ 8 4 3
♦ A K 6
♣ K 4

East
♠ J 9 4
♥ 10 9 7
♦ Q 10 3 2
♣ 5 3 2

South
♠ A K 10
♥ A J 5 2
♦ 8 7
♣ A J 8 7

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 6

Sitting West was Hawkeye of "M.A.S.H." Unit 4077.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

				3			2	
6		4		2	1	9		
					7	1		5
	8	5					6	9
			8	5	3			
2	4					7	5	
4		6	7					
		7	3	8		5		6
	5			6				

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	8	9	6	1	3	7	5	4
7	4	1	5	9	8	6	3	2
3	6	5	4	2	7	1	9	8
4	1	8	7	3	5	2	6	9
6	9	2	1	8	4	3	7	5
5	7	3	2	6	9	4	8	1
9	3	7	8	4	2	5	1	6
8	2	6	3	5	1	9	4	7
1	5	4	9	7	6	8	2	3

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LEGALS

LEGALS

**EXHIBIT A
RIVER VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
BERRIEN COUNTY,
MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF A PUB-
LIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED 2020-
2021 BUDGET**

PLEASE TAKE NO-
TICE that on May 18,
2020 at 6:30 o'clock
P.M., at the River Val-
ley Middle/High School
Library, Three Oaks,
Michigan, the Board of
Education of River Val-
ley School District will
hold a public hearing to
consider the District's
proposed 2020-2021
budget.
The Board may not ad-
opt its proposed 2020-
2021 budget until after
the public hearing. A
copy of the proposed
2020-2021 budget, in-
cluding the proposed
property tax millage
rate, is available for
public inspection dur-
ing normal business
hours at the River Val-
ley School District Busi-
ness Office, 15480
Three Oaks Road,
Three Oaks, Michigan.
The property tax mil-
lage rate proposed to
be levied to support the
proposed budget will be
a subject of this hear-
ing.1
This notice is given by
order of the Board of
Education.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

People DO Read Small Ads. You Did!

LOST

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Covert, MI
LOST!!!
White Chihuahua
with Tan Spots
8lbs, Female
Last seen 4/29
On 76th St
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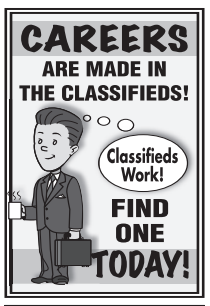

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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Stand up for what you want and what you know is right, and you will gain respect and boost your confidence. Turn this year into one of change, transition and personal growth that will help you move in a direction that offers clarity, perception and a clear path to a better future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do what you do best and keep moving forward. An unexpected change will lead to satisfaction and the lifestyle you desire. Discipline and hard work will pay off.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You'll gain insight into how best to deal with the people you encounter if you are observant. Taking action and doing what's right will result in respect and assistance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you reach out to someone you haven't heard from in a long time, it will bring back fond memories and entice you to pick up where you left off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Stop worrying about what others are doing and start focusing on what you want to achieve. Make discipline, reliability and standing up for yourself priorities. Romance is favored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Think before you act. Give your or someone else's emotions a chance to wane. Take part in physical activities or join groups that will appreciate what you have to offer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Stick to what's important to you. A budget that encourages you to economize will also ease stress. A shift at home will bring you closer to a loved one. Romance is favored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Look at your options and consider whom you would like to work alongside. A partnership structured to give both parties the opportunity to do what each does best without interference will lead to success.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Pour your energy into something that will challenge you physically, build strength and satisfy your adventurous needs. Don't trust someone who is asking for too much. Learn to say no.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Discuss your intentions with people who count. Getting approval and support to proceed will make your plans less stressful, more accessible and enjoyable to pursue.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Do your own thing. Don't feel the need to appease someone looking for free assistance. Put your time and energy into what will bring you the highest returns. Romance is favored.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Get together with people who share your sentiments. Your ideas and plans will make a difference. An innovative approach will result in an exciting partnership.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) A financial deal or gain looks promising. Confidently follow through with your plans. Property investments will result in personal and economic benefits. Romance and a celebration are encouraged.

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If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

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Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
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$15. per box - We fax all responses to you on a daily basis.
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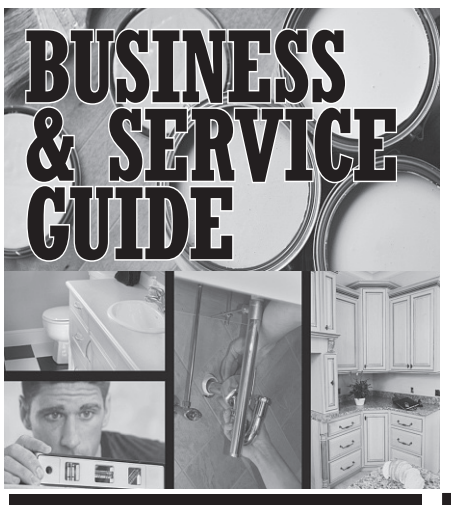
The Herald-Palladium



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IN BRIEF

Chalmers cards ace at Pebblewood

Bob Chalmers of Bridgman recorded a hole-in-one Sunday at Pebblewood Country Club.

The 88-year-old Chalmers used an 8-iron to ace the 87-yard hole No. 7. It was his fourth career hole-in-one. The shot was witnessed by Rick Philpott, Corky Dehring and Sam Chalmers.

Berrien Springs seeks basketball, wrestling coaches

Berrien Springs High School has openings for varsity boys basketball and varsity wrestling coaches.

Send a letter of interest, resume and references to athletic director Alan Alsbro at Berrien Springs High School, 201 Sylvester Ave., Berrien Springs, MI, 49103.

CFL season, future in doubt

OTTAWA (AP) — Canadian Football League Commissioner Randy Ambrosie said the most likely scenario is to cancel the season because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ambrosie made the admission for the first time while testifying Thursday to a House of Commons standing committee on finance. Ambrosie said the league's future is "very much in jeopardy."

U-M president: Football unlikely without students back on campus this fall

By AARON MCMANN
mlive.com

ANN ARBOR — The University of Michigan president seems on board with his athletic director when it comes to a plan for football in the fall.

If there is no in-person instruction with students on the Ann Arbor campus, he finds it difficult to see games played.

"If we can't have our students back on campus for a public-health informed fall semester, it's hard to imagine having student athletics if we don't have students and we don't have classes," Mark Schlissel told CNBC on Monday.

Schlissel's comments came during a five-minute interview with the money-market focused cables news network, focused heavily on the university's anticipated budget shortfall and plans for enrollment. But it was the first time Schlissel has publicly broached the topic of collegiate athletics since the COVID-19 pandemic.

And they fall in line with Warde Manuel, the school's athletic director, said last week during a town-hall forum on financial literacy.

"It's very difficult, if not impossible, for me to ask our student-athletes to return to campus to play a game when other students are not going to be returning," Manuel said.

"That is just unfathomable to me as I think about it. I could listen to arguments and be a part of discussions, but it is just hard for me to imagine that happening."

Now, the good news for football fans is that the University of Michigan has set in motion a plan to hold at least some in-person instruction on campus in the fall. But what that may look like remains unclear.

Schlissel told CNBC that large classes in lecture halls could be moved online and supplemented by smaller discussion groups, teaching labs or studios.

"We're working hard to work through various options, to be creative, to work with our world-renowned School of Public Health and our experts to get advice from the state and the county about how to redesign our curriculum, at least temporarily," Schlissel told CNBC.

"How to deliver the curriculum, to bring students back to Ann Arbor and have this residential experience, but at the same time do so safely."

The state of Michigan remains in a stay-at-home order through May 15, while the Big Ten Conference has suspended all organized team activities through June 1, 2020.

As of Thursday morning, COVID-19 has infected more than 1.2 million people in the United States and killed more than 73,500, according to Johns Hopkins University.

Meanwhile, the college football world at large is trying to figure out how it could safely operate a season. Some schools have already said they plan to hold in-person instruction in the fall, clearing the path for a return to collegiate athletics.

But in what capacity? And will everyone participate?

For now, it appears, Michigan appears to be trending that way.

But the school's president and athletic director have also drawn a line in the sand, indicating that a potential second outbreak and shut down of the university could mean just the opposite.

CHICAGO BEARS, DETROIT LIONS SCHEDULES

Bears

Sunday, Sept. 13	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 20	Giants	1 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 27	at Atlanta	1 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 4	Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 8	Tampa Bay	8:20 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 18	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 26	at L.A. Rams	8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 1	New Orleans	4:25 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 8	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 16	Minnesota	8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 29	at Green Bay	8:20 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6	Detroit	1 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 13	Houston	1 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 20	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 27	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 3	Green Bay	1 p.m.

Lions

Sunday, Sept. 13	Chicago	1 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 20	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 27	at Arizona	4:25 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 4	New Orleans	1 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 18	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 25	at Atlanta,	1 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 1	Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 8	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 15	Washington	1 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 22	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 26	Houston	12:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6	at Chicago	1 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 13	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 19 or 20	at Tennessee	TBD
Dec. 26 or 27	Tampa Bay	TBD
Sunday, Jan. 3	Minnesota	1 p.m.

Kicking off: Texans at Chiefs to open season Sept. 10

By BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

The Kansas City Chiefs will open defense of their Super Bowl championship by hosting Houston on Sept. 10 in the NFL's annual kickoff game — pending developments in the coronavirus pandemic, of course.

The Texans won a regular-season game at Arrowhead Stadium in 2019, then blew a 24-0 lead in the divisional round of the playoffs.

Another highlight of the opening weekend will have Tom Brady's regular-season debut with Tampa Bay against Drew Brees at New Orleans on Sept. 13 – the first matchup of 40-plus quarterbacks in NFL history.

The opening of SoFi Stadium in the Los Angeles area that Sunday night has the Rams hosting the Cowboys.

Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas will debut on the Monday night, Sept. 21, with the Raiders facing Brees and the Saints.

All of the 32 teams released their schedules early Thursday evening, with the full 2020 list scheduled to be revealed by the league a bit later.

The Chiefs, who won their first Super Bowl in a half-century last February, need baseball's Royals to move their game for Sept. 10, which now is part of a doubleheader two days earlier. The teams' stadiums share parking lots.

The NFL schedule, not to mention offseason activities and the preseason, has to be considered tentative given the current prohibition on large gatherings.

But Commissioner Roger Goodell has said the league is planning for a normal season, albeit while making contingency plans.

"The league and the clubs have been in contact with the relevant local, state and federal government authorities and will continue to do so," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said.

The traditional Monday night doubleheader on opening weekend will have Pittsburgh at the New York Giants, which has a rookie head coach in Joe Judge, and Tennessee at Denver.

"The number one positive is we're getting ready to play football, so that's the biggest thing," Judge said. "Once you get the schedule, it starts moving a little bit faster in your mind in terms of preparing for what's in front of you."

Top overall draft pick Joe Burrow and the Bengals start off against the sixth overall selection in April's draft, Justin Herbert and the Chargers at Cincinnati. The Bengals also will face the other highly rated rookie quarterback Tua Tagavailoa and the Dolphins in Week 13.

New England, without Brady at QB for an opener for only the second time since 2001 – he was suspended for the first four games of 2016 – hosts Miami on the opening Sunday.

Thanksgiving games will have Houston at Detroit, Washington at Dallas, then one of the league's fiercest rivalries with Baltimore at Pittsburgh in the night game.

Late-season Saturday games will be scheduled but with undetermined matchups for flexibility, something the NFL has done previously.

Certain to draw heavy early season interest will be the past two league MVPs, Patrick Mahomes and Lamar Jackson, facing off in Week 3 on Monday night at Kansas City.

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Compact Male user

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1. Chartier-Kastler E et al. 2013

*Neil is a SpeediCath® Compact Male user who has received compensation from Coloplast to provide this information.

SpeediCath® catheters are prescribed for use by patients who require bladder drainage due to urine retention or post void residual volume (PVR). Before use, carefully read all of the instructions. Call your doctor if you think you have a UTI or can't pass the catheter into the bladder. For more information regarding risks, potential complications and product support, call Coloplast Corp. at 1-866-226-6362 and/ or consult the company website at www.coloplast.us.

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Half a Congress isn't enough

E.J. Dionne

We can debate whether senators and House members are "essential workers." What's not debatable is that a democratic republic needs both of its legislative bodies working – especially the one led by the opposition party.

The imbalance of power in Washington was brought home when Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., against much medical advice, shamelessly rushed the GOP-controlled body back to the Capitol. He has truly urgent matters to deal with – starting with his push to win confirmation for a 37-year-old protege to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the nation's second-highest court.

Judge Justin Walker, the nominee, has served all of two months on a lower federal court (McConnell helped arrange that appointment, too) and has, as The New York Times put it, "zero trial experience but a pedigree in conservatism."

No way is Mitch going to let a mere health catastrophe get in the way of packing the courts with right-wingers.

In the meantime, the operation of the House is being gummed up by Republican resistance to new rules to deal with the exigencies of the COVID-19 crisis. Moving its 435 members around the country is harder than moving 100 senators, and many of the top House committees are so big that there are only a few rooms where they can meet and social-distance at the same time.

And wouldn't it be nice to have a fully operational governing body at a moment when potential scandals, inefficiencies and just plain incompetence are breaking out across the Trump administration? Consider the political cronyism and ineptitude of son-in-law Jared Kushner's procurement operation and the shocking, but not surprising, whistleblower complaint from Dr. Rick Bright. Bright was pushed out as director of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority after he raised alarms about Trump's full-speed-ahead advocacy of hydroxychloroquine as a cure for COVID-19. The drug has since been ruled as dangerous in certain circumstances. Trump doesn't talk about the "miracle" drug much anymore.

The House is not entirely hamstrung. It has passed big emergency bills. Bright is scheduled to appear before a House subcommittee on May 14, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office noted that as of Monday, House Democrats had conducted 117 briefings, hearings and roundtables since the shelter in place orders were issued.

But Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., the chairman of the House Rules Committee, pointed to the "difference between a hearing and a briefing" on the one hand and "formal hearings where committees have subpoena power, if necessary, where you can actually debate legislation and mark up legislation and move it to the floor."

McGovern has been pushing for a system that would allow the House to run with fewer members present through proxy voting – an absent member could designate a colleague to cast his or her vote – and with committee hearings and markups in which members could participate remotely.

"The Supreme Court is finding a way to operate remotely," McGovern said. "Yet in the House we're told by some Republicans in particular, 'Well, you know, we've got to think long and hard before we tweak 200 years of tradition.' Give me a break!"

McGovern's reference was to objections to an early version of his plan from House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. He urged the House to tread lightly before "changing 200 years of House precedent." Pelosi pulled back from McGovern's proposal, hoping to negotiate a bipartisan solution. McCarthy's own rather convoluted plan for reopening the House takes what it calls a "crawl, walk, run" attitude toward technology. The emphasis seems to be on "crawl."

Democrats are increasingly suspicious that McCarthy simply wants to disempower the one part of the federal government not under Republican sway.

"Kevin McCarthy exists to do the president's bidding, he exercises no independent judgment and really has no devotion to his institution" Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., said in an interview. "So he would be only too happy if the House never took another vote, didn't do a whit of oversight. ... He doesn't want the House to do oversight any more than the president does."

McGovern said that while some House Republicans privately support his efforts, he, too, is increasingly skeptical of GOP leaders. "It's clear to me," McGovern said, "that they're not interested in figuring out a way to operate remotely."

Schiff doesn't want more delays in getting the House fully back in business. "I would hope by next week that we have established the processes that we can use to conduct virtual hearings and vote at a safe distance," Schiff said. "If ever there was a circumstance in which the adage that 'the Constitution is not a suicide pact' was meritorious, it's now, during a pandemic."

"The mother of all parliaments" in Britain, even more suffused in tradition than Congress, has found a way to operate remotely. Surely our tech-savvy country also has the bandwidth to make democracy safe.

E.J. Dionne is a columnist for The Washington Post.

Unity and optimism in short supply

Kathleen Parker

The man I used to think of as my Occasional Muse seemed to have disappeared.

Last we "spoke" (via email three years ago), he had warned that time was of the essence if we were to have a long-intended face-to-face meeting. He wasn't getting any younger, he said, though his sharp mind belied any sign of age-related deadlines. Lesson: Never postpone what you may later regret.

Though we never did meet, William "Van" Dusen Wishard is alive but not well, according to his son, with whom I spoke Tuesday. Now 90, he's unable to continue our conversation but he will know that his words were not wasted on me.

Wishard, a treasured correspondent, wrote frequently to encourage, criticize or advise me but mainly to urge me to convey to readers his concerns about the future.

A trend analyst known as "Van" to the presidents, congressional conferences and corporate leaders around the world he advised, Wishard believed that we humans are caught up in a head-spinning era of change and a resulting crisis of meaning and identity. The big changes, outlined in his 2000 book, "Between Two Ages: The 21st Century and the Crisis of Meaning," are not passing concerns, such as China's trade policies or Russia's obsession with empire; they are the revolutions occurring simultaneously in technology, bioethics, economics and migration patterns that are gradually altering national identities.

The landscape has changed so rapidly in such an abbreviated time that our coping mechanisms are being stretched beyond their capacity to adapt. Complicating matters, our decaying institutions were on life support even before the economy fell into a death match with COVID-19.

Wishard was especially adamant that our leaders need to be well-versed in the source of our instability and understand the deeper roots, not just the reality, of what we're experiencing as a nation and a world. Someone who could lead a discussion of why the world seems to be coming apart – and what we can do about it. Pandemic didn't come up in our virtual exchanges, but he did say something in our last conversations that has haunted me.

Just as it was beginning to unfold, Wishard predicted that the 2016 election would be our last "normal" election, as we think of them. He feared the country was split so deeply along partisan and values lines that governing would become increasingly difficult for either party to accomplish. And he prophesied that the ensuing chaos might make some less resistant to a military-run government.

His fear struck me as overwrought and even outlandish. *Never in America.* But now the notion seems less far-fetched, as folks with guns who are hostile to the lockdown prowl the streets in Ohio, and a customer shoots a security guard in Flint, for enforcing the wearing of face masks. It feels as though the rivets on the airframe are popping and there seems no force strong enough to halt, much less reverse, the steady deterioration.

Most people would probably agree that now, more than ever, we need unifying leadership with a keen understanding of the unprecedented forces upon us, from high-tech to vast migrations to the ascendance of emerging nations to material threats from psychopaths. The coronavirus pandemic isn't the worst problem we've faced, but it is evidence of the globalization of all things, good and bad. What begins with one person in a remote place, whether an upper respiratory virus or a tectonic-shifting technological advance, can infect and affect millions around the world to dazzling or deathly effect.

We are not, at the moment, oversupplied with leadership to meet this test. America has generally been lucky throughout its history: When faced with an existential crisis, the nation has somehow miraculously produced the kind of president – Washington, Lincoln, Franklin Roosevelt – who has, in the face of a do-or-die challenge, built a bridge to the future. Americans hunger for an aspirational message of unity and optimism. Or, as another president put it, hope and change. But we need some and soon. Maybe he or she waits in the wings – or perhaps is just being born. Let's hope he or she materializes quickly, lest we find ourselves saluting our president someday.

Or, worse, lest we find ourselves in a world so unhinged and adrift that we discover that there's no path back toward civilization. It has always hung by a thread, which seems today in danger of fraying.

See, Mr. Wishard? You remain my muse after all.

Kathleen Parker is a columnist for The Washington Post.

LETTERS

Next election is about keeping our liberty

Editor,

Three cheers for Pastor Billy Long! His "Opinion Maker" column of April 29 ("Government power grabs must end") was right in the center of the bullseye about what is going on. He could not have been more correct.

I am saddened by thinking of how many people have fought for our freedom and liberty over the centuries and here we are giving it away in a heartbeat so the government can keep us "safe," which is a fallacy in and of itself.

Our stubborn, can't-admit-when-she-is-wrong, tyrant governor is trying to destroy the economy on purpose so she, along with all the other progressive/liberal/socialist government officials can rebuild it into the socialist utopia they envision where government decides how you should live, what you should have and provides for everything free of charge; there are open borders and massively fraudulent elections and you aren't responsible for yourself, your actions or anything else. Don't worry, in this progressive scenario the government will take care of everything for you.

And if you say I am wrong just look at Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer in Washington, D.C., and how they hold up aid to people that really need it so they can extort their ideals into the bills no matter what it takes and who suffers. And our governor is getting in on the action by holding up unemployment benefits for a lot of people. Might as well inject a little payback into it also and direct some funds to companies that are friendly to Democrat causes through a no-bid contract, at least until you get caught. Remember to never let a good crisis go to waste.

The upcoming election will be a crossroads for the United States: Do you want to keep your freedom and liberty or not?

Mark Sheehy
South Haven

Trump haters don't get the message

Editor,

I recently wrote an article suggesting the legion of Trump haters ought to include other sources for their news. CNN, MSNBC, Washington Post, New York Times and others have been dramatically wrong on so many important issues.

I mentioned Trump's nomination, his election, the Mueller investigation, Michael Cohen, the Covington kids, the Kavanaugh debacle, Adam Schiff's lies, Michael Avenatti, Jussie Smollett, Julian Assange and others. Two readers responded to The HP.

One didn't like the label of Trump hater. Well, I don't recall anyone wearing an Obama T-shirt getting kicked out of a restaurant, no one gets beat up for wearing an Obama hat, no one made a movie on how to kill the president, no one pretended to decapitate Obama terrorist-style. This reader also said that media is without question biased and so is every other news outlet. All news should be factual, vetted and unbiased.

Another responder, a friend, suggested that the Mueller report didn't clear Trump. Prosecutors cannot say we can't prove he's guilty but we think he is, and Michael Cohen lied to help Trump. Cohen is in jail because he lied and committed campaign finance violations. I guarantee he wasn't helping Trump. We also have this innocent until proven guilty concept in our country, that seems only to apply to the rich and connected and Democrats.

To add proof to this bias, General Flynn a 33-year veteran, was convicted of lying. Fact is we now know that if he didn't plead guilty they were going to go after his son. We know this because an FBI memo from the dirty agents in the FBI asked: What's the plan? Do we try to get him to tell the truth and convict him (the Logan act which has never been successful and is probably unconstitutional) or do we get him to lie and prosecute him or just get him fired?

You didn't read that in this paper and as of this writing it hasn't been on CNN or MSNBC.

Finally, at least these two responders had the courage of their convictions and used their real names, unlike the cowards that sent hate-filled letters to my home and used fake names and addresses.

Mike Phelan
St. Joseph

Litany of a feckless leader

Editor,

Oh, the incompetence, arrogance and irresponsibility of a "war" president.

From January through early March, Trump repeatedly downplayed the possibility of a COVID-19 pandemic. He ignored multiple intelligence briefings and advice from science experts, he called this a Democrat hoax, that it's just the flu, and that it'd be gone by spring.

When it was clear that the nation was in trouble, Trump "declared war" on the virus and assumed the mantra of a "wartime president." However, he made it clear that he assumed no responsibility for the situation in which we found ourselves.

As deaths climbed, Trump declared war against science and took to the media with daily, delusory briefings. His diatribes usually degenerated into misleading self-promotion, often contradicting his medical experts on progress and the status of key components such as testing.

The low point was his random suggestion that maybe injecting or ingesting disinfectants could cure coronavirus infections (something one might hypothesize while inebriated at a bar to some friends, not a national press conference).

The final phase of the "war" was his surrender. He published some guidelines for reopening the country, drawn up by medical experts, and then declared that the governors of the 50 states would be responsible for pulling the country out of the morass he helped create. As he washed his hands of his two-month, incompetence laden "war," he began pushing the states to open their economies, even though none were meeting the guidelines that the medical experts had created.

Trump's most recent act of incompetence was to become an obstacle to those on whom he dumped his bungled operation. He cheered on the protesters who stormed Michigan's capitol building, some armed and some carrying Nazi and Confederate signs and flags, calling them "very good people." Most of these "very good people" were endangering everyone they subsequently encountered by violating the social distancing mitigations in place to reduce infection rates.

Never in the history of our country has a president demonstrated such feckless leadership against such a formidable foe.

Damon Wolf
Benton Harbor

Deranged, or just telling the truth?

Editor,

I worry I might have "Trump Derangement Syndrome." Here are my symptoms.

I think Trump failed to employ any of the federal government's several plans to prepare for biological incidents, including the 2018 "National Biodefense Strategy" and the 2016 "Playbook for Early Response to High-Consequence Emerging Infectious Disease Threats and Biological Incidents." I do not think his administration secured PPEs or raw materials to make them, set up procurement and manufacturing supply chains, or ensured we could do the widespread testing and contact tracing necessary to contain the spread, as detailed in the plans. I do not think a president who is against world government can validly blame the WHO for failing to manage our response.

I do think all of that harmed our national security and Americans died because of it. I'm concerned that if this virus really was an "attack" worse than Pearl Harbor or the World Trade Center, as Trump claims, the fact that the president was alerted to it by military and intelligence agencies in early January and failed means he might not be the president we need in such an emergency.

Do I have this syndrome?

Miles West
Stevensville

Store workers become enforcers of social distancing rules

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sandy Jensen's customer-service job at a Sam's Club in Fullerton, California, normally involves checking member ID cards at the door and answering questions. But the coronavirus has turned her into a kind of store sheriff.

Now she must confront shoppers who aren't wearing masks and enforce social distancing measures such as limits on the number of people allowed inside. The efforts sometimes provoke testy customers.

"They are behaving worse now," Jensen said. "Everybody is on edge. I have hostile members in my face."

Her frustration is shared by store workers across the country, who are suddenly being asked to enforce the rules that govern shopping during the pandemic, a tension-filled role for which most of them have received little or no training. The burden is sure to become greater as more businesses in nearly a dozen states start to reopen.

Even if a security guard is posted at the store, employees complain they are often left to stand up to defiant shoppers.

"I think that people are pushing back because their freedoms are being controlled," said Marc Perrone, president of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, which represents 1.3 million members including grocery workers. "Members don't feel comfortable trying to corral the customer. Management will take the customer side."

Store tensions recently resulted in violence in at least two states. A Michigan security officer was fatally shot last week after telling a customer to wear a mask at a Family Dollar store. Two McDonald's employees in Oklahoma City were shot Wednesday by a customer who was angry that the restaurant's dining area was closed, police said.

Also in Oklahoma, one city abandoned its mask rule after store clerks were threatened. And at a southern California grocery store called Vons, a man showed up in what looked like a Ku Klux Klan hood. He ignored requests from workers to remove it until he got to the register, according to the supermarket.

Masks are required in some states. Some major retailers including Costco Wholesale Club have made masks mandatory regardless of government policies. But even at stores that post signs about mask recommendations, workers often have to approach unmasked visitors.

Walmart, the nation's largest retailer and largest private employer, said it works with law enforcement in communities where face coverings are required.

Jeff Reid, who works at the meat counter at a Giant store in Silver Spring, Maryland, which mandates masks, said the greeter at his store is the one confronting shoppers, not the security guard posted outside.

"We are going on the front lines on a daily basis. If it's against the law without your mask, why are you having cashiers and teenagers trying to enforce this when this is the law?" asked Zeid, who often has to reprimand customers to keep 6 feet apart.

The pandemic duties are the latest example of workers being asked to police retail space. Last year, retailers including CVS, Walgreens and Walmart asked customers to refrain from openly carrying guns in stores even where state law allows it. Stores did not outright prohibit guns because they did not want workers to have to enforce a ban. But how workers should respond to weapon-carrying customers has remained fuzzy. Many retailers left it up to the discretion of store managers and provided some guidance and training to workers.

Death notices

Kenneth Duncan, 80, of Niles died May 6, 2020, at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka, Ind. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Preston Horne, 93, of Benton Harbor died May 3, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Jessie Price Sr., 85, of Benton Harbor died May 1, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Marlene Schalon, 83, of St. Joseph died May 6, 2020, at The Whitcomb Senior Living Community, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Raymond 'Ray' Joseph Wojdula

July 26, 1934 – May 5, 2020

Raymond "Ray" Joseph Wojdula, 85, of New Buffalo passed away at his home on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sommerfeld Chapel, 15 N. Barton St., New Buffalo.

Ray was born on July 26, 1934, in East Chicago, Ind., to the late Joseph and Mary (Bania) Wojdula. He served his country while a 2nd Lt. Navy pilot from 1955-1959. Ray graduated from Purdue University with a pharmacy degree and remained an active alumni and avid fan of the Boilermakers. He was owner/operator/pharmacist of the New Buffalo Drug & Grand Variety store in New Buffalo from 1971-2019, and also the Three Oaks Drug Store. Ray was a restaurateur with the Boathouse and he operated Pier 6 Disco. He was also a former mayor and council member of the City of New Buffalo. Ray was also a member of the New Buffalo American Legion Post 169 and the New Buffalo Lions Club. He will be missed by his family and many friends.

Ray is survived by his wife, Janie Peppel-Wojdula; his four sons: John (Tracy) Wojdula of Brasstown, N.C., David Wojdula of Michigan, Philip (Susan) Wojdula of Iron River, Mich., and Mark (Lisa) Wojdula of Reese, Mich.; stepchildren: Lori (Ben) Conklin of Leo, Ind., Terry Schwarz of New Buffalo, Scott (Tiffany) Schwarz of Stevens City, Va., and Julie (Daryl Schmidt) Schwarz of Sawyer; and numerous grand- and great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Joseph; and sisters, Lorraine Nowicki and Jane White.

Private services will be held for Ray, with his final resting place being at Pine Grove Cemetery in New Buffalo. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary of the Lake Church in New Buffalo or to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Benton Harbor.

Births

Lakeland Medical Center – St. Joseph

Benton Harbor – Girl, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, Tacarra Branch, 6:44 p.m. May 6

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds, 11.5 ounces, Champang Coates and Duvarce Kazee, 1:48 p.m. May 6.

Benton Harbor – Boy, 8 pounds, 3 ounces, Dajanay Marlowe, 8:38 a.m. May 5.

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds even, Tynisha Favorite, 9:13 p.m. April 29.

Berrien Center – Boy, 8 pounds, 10 ounces, Ashley and Anthony Hackett, 12:30 a.m. April 29.

Niles – Boy, 7 pounds, 12 ounces, Andrea and Dane Beekford, 10:02 a.m. April 30.

St. Joseph – Boy, 7 pounds, 10 ounces, Sheryl and Rob Schripsema, 5:32 p.m. May 1.

Watervliet – Boy, 8 pounds, 2.9 ounces, Kaycee Wilson, 7:08 p.m. April 28.

Marriage Licenses

ST. JOSEPH – The following marriage licenses have been issued by Berrien County Clerk Sharon Tyler.

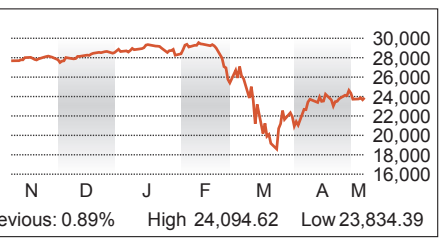
Heidi Maire Hosbein and Dana Renee Skidmore, both of Benton Harbor.

Melissa Kay Mauchmar of Sodus and Michael Steele Dschida of St. Joseph.

Krysten Danielle Yates and Samuel John Monte, both of St. Joseph.

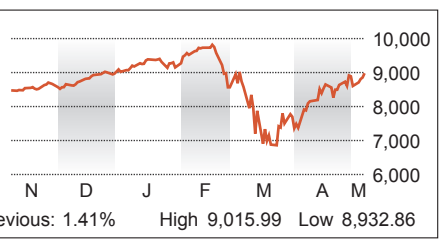
MARKETS

May 7, 2020
Dow Jones industrials
211.25
23,875.89



Pct. change from previous: 0.89% High 24,094.62 Low 23,834.39

May 7, 2020
Nasdaq composite
125.27
8,979.66



Pct. change from previous: 1.41% High 9,015.99 Low 8,932.86

Amer Elec Power AEP
$78.60 **-2.09 -2.6%**
▼ **4-wk.** -8.9% ▼ **YTD** -16.8%

Whirlpool WHR
$106.90 **-5.29 -4.7%**
▲ **4-wk.** +2.1% ▼ **YTD** -27.5%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK LO	52-WK HI	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.70	28.89	+.10	+0.3	▼	▼	▼
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	78.60	+.48	+0.6	▼	▼	▼
Apple Inc	AAPL	170.27	327.85	303.74	+3.11	+1.0	▲	▲	▲
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1274.41	1012.16	-20.20	-2.0	▲	▲	▲
BP PLC	BP	15.51	43.00	24.06	+.48	+2.0	▲	▼	▼
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	54.54	-.12	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	44.60	-.15	-0.3	▼	▼	▲
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	47.74	35.58	+.44	+1.3	▼	▼	▲
Deere	DE	106.14	180.48	136.00	+3.87	+2.9	▼	▼	▼
Disney	DIS	79.07	153.41	105.57	+4.69	+4.6	▲	▲	▲
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	119.71	76.69	+1.03	+1.4	▼	▼	▲
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	77.93	44.24	+.25	+0.6	▲	▲	▲
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	31.64	17.33	+.55	+3.3	▼	▼	▲
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	53.42	30.97	-.05	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
FordM	F	3.96	10.56	4.87	...	...	▼	▼	▲
GenElec	GE	5.90	13.26	6.11	+.13	+2.2	▼	▼	▼
HomeDp	HD	140.63	247.12	229.45	+5.53	+2.5	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	19.48	10.07	+.21	+2.1	▼	▼	▲
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.82	15.63	8.25	+.02	+0.2	▼	▼	▲
IDEX	IEX	104.56	178.14	153.40	+1.70	+1.1	▲	▲	▲
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	121.23	-.31	-0.3	▲	▼	▲
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	141.10	91.21	+.94	+1.0	▼	▼	▲
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	157.00	147.59	-.49	-0.3	▼	▲	▲
Lowes	LOW	60.00	126.73	111.92	+2.30	+2.1	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	221.93	181.12	+4.15	+2.3	▼	▼	▲
Microsoft	MSFT	119.01	190.70	183.60	+1.06	+0.6	▲	▲	▲
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	49.88	21.67	+.86	+4.1	▲	▼	▼
Penney	JCP	0.19	1.33	.19	+.00	+1.1	▼	▼	▼
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	51.69	-.63	-1.2	▼	▲	▲
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	44.56	36.96	-1.17	-3.1	▼	▲	▲
ProctGam	PG	94.34	128.09	112.17	-.93	-0.8	▼	▼	▲
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	100.91	81.21	+2.66	+3.4	▲	▼	▲
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	23.02	10.50	+.41	+4.1	▼	▲	▲
Stryker	SYK	124.54	226.30	192.19	+6.35	+3.4	▲	▲	▲
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	47.46	26.25	+.34	+1.3	▼	▼	▲
Target	TGT	70.03	130.24	113.36	-.22	-0.2	▲	▲	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	114.25	105.17	+.12	+0.1	▲	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	82.00	125.31	92.83	-.10	-0.1	▲	▼	▼
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	62.22	55.58	-.06	-0.1	▼	▼	▲
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	85.13	+.19	+0.2	▼	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	98.85	133.38	121.89	-.87	-0.7	▼	▲	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	39.41	64.50	40.66	-.54	-1.3	▼	▼	▼
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.04	20.48	+.27	+1.3	▲	▲	▲
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	163.64	106.90	-.23	-0.2	▼	▲	▲
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	44.69	25.23	+.75	+3.1	▼	▼	▼
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	100.18	66.18	+.52	+0.8	▲	▲	▲

WAYLAND LIVESTOCK

Wayland Livestock sales as of Tuesday, May 5. Prices are per pound.
Choice steers & heifers not available
High yielding choice & prime
79 cents ..... 84 cents
Utility cows 47 cents. ..... 57 cents
Canner & cutter cows 35 cents .... 55 cents
Bulls 70 cents ..... 80 cents
Top bull calves 70 cents $1.70
Hay $3.50 ..... $8.75 per bale
Straw $2.60 ..... $3.50 per bale
For information, call 792-2296 or fax 792-8055.

PRODUCE PRICES

The following fruit prices were recorded on the Chicago Terminal Market on Wednesday. These prices were provided by the USDA Market News Branch office in Chicago.

APPLES: Cartons tray pack of Washington Extra Fancy 72s Red Delicious sold from mostly $26-27, Golden Delicious sold for $34, Fuji brought $29-30, Pink Lady brought $38-40, Gala sold from mostly $35-36, and 72 size Honeycrisp sold for mostly $37, with fine appearance offerings $54. Cartons of 12 3-pound film bags of Washington WA Extra Fancy 2 1/2-inch minimum Red Delicious sold from $23-24, while Golden Delicious brought $22-23, Gala sold from $23-26, while bushel cartons loose of Michigan 3 inch minimum Golden Delicious, Gala and Jonagold brought $20.

ASPARAGUS: Pyramid cartons/crates 11-pound bunched standard size from Peru sold slightly higher for mostly $43-44, while large white bunched from Peru sold higher for $27. Organic standard size green offerings from Mexico sold steady from mostly $22-24.

BEANS: Bushel cartons/crates of round green type machine-picked offerings from Florida sold slightly higher from $24.50-25.50, while hand-picked offerings sold lower from $26-28.

BERRIES: Flats of 12 1-pint cups with lids of medium-large size from Georgia sold for $22 with fine appearance offerings $30.50, while 6-ounce cups with lids offerings sold from $16-19. Organic offerings from California sold steady for $26, with fine appearance offerings $32. Strawberries in flats of 12 1-pound containers medium size from California sold from $12-13, with fine appearance offerings $16-16.50, while organic offerings brought $21, with fine appearance $24.50.

BROCCOLI: Cartons of 14 bunches from Arizona/California sold for $19.50, with organic offerings lower from $22.50-24.

CABBAGE: 50-pound cartons of round green medium from Texas sold higher from $16.50-17, while red offerings sold for $22.

CAULIFLOWER: Cartons of 12 film wrapped heads from Arizona/California sold lower from $14-14.50, with organic offerings lower for $36.

CORN: Wire-bound crates of four dozen bi-color from Florida sold slightly higher from $16-17, with yellow unchanged from $13-15.

CUCUMBERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of medium size sold for $17, with selects $11 and large lower from mostly $13-14, while carton 24s sold from mostly $9-10. Pickles of 200-300 size from Mexico sold slightly lower from $23-25.

EGGPLANT: 1-1/9-bushel cartons of 24-count eggs from Mexico sold slightly lower from $24-26, with organic offerings $32.

LETTUCE: Cartons film wrapped 24 heads of iceberg lettuce from Arizona/California sold lower from $15-17, with organic offerings $30.

ORANGES: Cartons of 10 4-pound film bags of Florida 80 size Valencia juice oranges sold for $22-23, while 72 count California navels sold from $24-27.

PEPPERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons of Florida green jumbos sold slightly lower from mostly $31-32, large brought $32-32.50, with choppers higher for $19.50. Medium size jalapeno peppers from Mexico sold for $20-22, while extra-large poblano sold for $22, serranos sold higher from $38-40, and medium Hungarian wax sold higher for $34.

SQUASH: 4/7-bushel cartons of small-medium zucchini sold higher from mostly $15-17 with medium zucchini from Mexico $16-17, while small size yellow straightneck sold higher from $16.50-18, with medium size $19. 1 1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of large size acorn sold lower from $17.50-18, while butternut small sold higher from $28-29, and spaghetti $25.

TOMATOES: 25-pound cartons loose mature greens 5x6s from Florida sold higher from $26-28, and cartons 2-layer offerings from Mexico of 4x5 size sold lower for $25. Flats 12 1-pint containers with lids of light red-red medium size grape tomatoes from Florida sold steady from mostly $9-11. Cartons of 12 1-pint baskets of cherry type red from Florida and Mexico sold steady for $12. Plum tomatoes packed in 25-pound cartons loose of extra-large size from Mexico sold lower from $20-22, with large size $18-20.

IN BRIEF

Blood drives

American Red Cross

Noon-5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Moose Lodge 697, 1025 Wells St., South Haven.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Thursday, Peace Lutheran Church, 06321 Blue Star Memorial Highway, South Haven.

Noon-5:45 p.m. May 18, Lawton Evangelical Mennonite Church, 425 Nursery St., Lawton.

Versiti Blood Center

11 a.m.-4 p.m. today, Ascension-Borgess Lee Hospital, oncology room, 420 W. High St., Dowagiac.

7 a.m.-noon Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Noon-7 p.m. Wednesday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-noon May 17, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

2-6 p.m. May 18, Midway Baptist Church, event room, 7517 Red Arrow Highway, Watervliet.

Noon-7 p.m. May 20, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

3-7 p.m. May 21, Anytime Fitness, workout area, 5643 Cleveland Ave., Stevensville.

Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 112 pounds.

Berrien County records another COVID-19 death

The Berrien County Health Department (BCHD) on Thursday reported the county's 21st death from COVID-19.

The death was a woman over the age of 70 who had underlying health conditions.

In addition, the county added 10 more confirmed positive cases over Wednesday, bringing the total to 354.

The county now has 210 people who have recovered from the virus.

As of Thursday morning there were nine people in the intensive care unit of the COVID-19 unit at Spectrum Health Lakeland and 12 people in the unit not in the ICU.

An additional five cases were recorded at West Woods of Niles on Wednesday, according to the state's long-term care facility data.

Also, Van Buren County now has 73 cases, compared to the 68 reported Wednesday.

Cass County has 36 cases, one more from Wednesday. Each county still has two deaths each.

Local numbers and information can be found at www.bchdmi.org, and at www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19. For state numbers, visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago – 1995

T.J. Hicks of Benton Harbor combined two of life's biggest moments during last week's Western Michigan University graduation ceremonies in Kalamazoo, Mich. As Hicks walked across the stage to receive his diploma, he carried a large sign stating, "Mychell, Marry Me??"

Michelle "Myshell" Meimes, of St. Joseph, is a senior in special education at WMU. Her answer: "Yes."

35 years ago – 1985

The Continental Can Co. plant in St. Joseph Township will hold a public open house on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate the plant's 25th anniversary. Visitors will be able to see a can assembly line in action.

Continental Can's local plant produces about 280 million cans a year from its eight production lines, primarily serving the fruit and vegetable industry. The company currently employs 133 people.

50 years ago – 1970

Charles Jeffery, 92, trustee and pillar of the House of David, Benton Harbor, died today at Mercy Hospital. Mr. Jeffery was one of the last survivors of the immigrants who came from Australia and New Zealand to join the colony founded by the late Benjamin Purnell. The famed colony is down to less than 90 members. Mr. Jeffery, also an ordained minister, managed several businesses for the House of David during his long career.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, May 8, the 129th day of 2020. There are 237 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On May 8, 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced on radio that Nazi Germany's forces had surrendered, and that "the flags of freedom fly all over Europe."

On this date:

In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River.

In 1970, anti-war protests took place across the United States and around the world; in New York, construction workers broke up a demonstration on Wall Street.

In 1973, militant Native Americans who had held the South Dakota hamlet of Wounded Knee for 10 weeks surrendered.

In 1978, David R. Berkowitz pleaded guilty in a Brooklyn courtroom to murder, attempted murder and assault in connection with the "Son of Sam" shootings that claimed six lives and terrified New Yorkers. (Berkowitz was sentenced to six consecutive life prison terms.)

In 1993, the Muslim-led government of Bosnia-Herzegovina and rebel Bosnian Serbs signed an agreement for a nationwide cease-fire.

In 1996, South Africa took another step from apartheid to democracy by adopting a constitution that guaranteed equal rights for blacks and whites.

In 2003, the Senate unanimously endorsed adding to NATO seven former communist nations: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly Cloudy	Clear	Mostly Sunny	Few Showers	Chance Showers	Partly Cloudy
43°	30°	49° / 41°	47° / 39°	45° / 35°	52° / 43°

Local Outlook

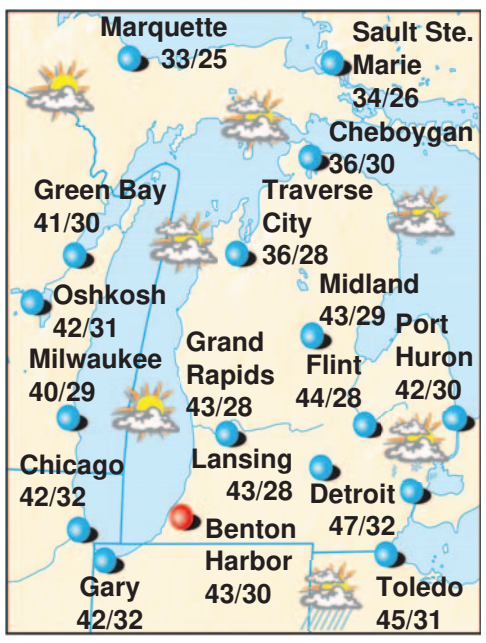
Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 43°, humidity of 51%. South southeast wind 10 to 24 mph. Expect clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 30°. North wind 6 to 22 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 23°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 6:31 a.m.
Sunset ..... 8:53 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 10:38 p.m.
Moonset ..... 7:31 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
5/14	5/22	5/29	6/5

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	65°
Low	47°
Normal High	68°
Normal Low	45°
Record High	86° in 2015
Record Low	35° in 2017

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.07"
Normal for month	0.93"
Year to date	12.31"
Normal Year to date	10.11"

Air Quality

Yesterday 37
Main Offender ..... Ozone

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

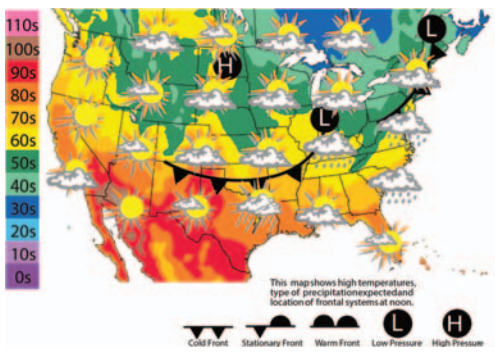
Weather Trivia

Are there any continents that do not have hurricanes?

Answer: Yes. Only Antarctica is immune to hurricanes.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for May 8, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, NE wind 16 to 22 kt. A slight chance of rain showers, mixing with snow. Waves 2 ft building to 7 ft. Water temperature 46 degrees. Tonight, N wind 9 to 17 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers, highs in the 30s. Northwest wind 13 to 19 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Saturday with highs in the 30s and 40s. West northwest wind 10 to 18 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers and showers, highs in the 40s. South southeast wind 10 to 24 mph. Expect mostly sunny to partly cloudy skies Saturday with highs in the 40s. West northwest wind 7 to 14 mph.

69K file for unemployment; pandemic total now 1.3M

By DAVID EGGERT and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

LANSING — Nearly 69,000 people in Michigan filed initial claims for unemployment last week, bringing the state's seven-week total in the coronavirus pandemic to more than 1.3 million.

The number of new claims dropped for the fourth straight week – it hit 388,000 the week ending April 4 – but still approached the weekly high recorded in the Great Depression, according to federal data released Thursday. The state Unemployment Insurance Agency has said more than 1.1 million jobless have been paid benefits.

To expedite claims for tens of thousands of people who have been waiting in a queue for help, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer late Wednesday issued an order letting the deluged agency review only an individual's most recent job separation to determine the benefit level.

The coronavirus and the steps taken to slow it from spreading, including the closure of many businesses, have had a devastating effect on the economy. More than a quarter of Michigan's workforce is out of work.

Sarah May lost her job as a bartender in mid-March.

"My spending has definitely been cut down a lot. So, it's not like I needed a ton of money or even the amount that I was making before," May said. "When we need groceries, I don't have to write my list and then go through it again, highlight the things that are a priority and take my calculator with me to make sure I have enough while I'm walking through the store."

The 38-year-old from Oakland County's White Lake Township spent over a month dealing with the unemployment agency. She is the primary caregiver for her 16-year-old daughter with disabilities.

"The stress has been insane," May said, who added she often tries to care for her daughter while dialing the unemployment office.

May, who is married to a Hamtramck firefighter, finally was approved for benefits and recently received her first payment. "It's much, much easier to breathe now that we have the unemployment," she said.

Dana Simone tried for nearly two months to get benefits after losing her job at a construction firm. The 34-year-old from Canton Township said she called regularly since March 20, up to 30 times a day in recent weeks, but never received any assistance from the state. She also has reached out to her state representative, senator and the governor's office. No luck.

"I'm still one of millions. I do understand that," Simone said Thursday. "But it's ridiculous."

The good news for Simone, though, is that since Whitmer has lifted restrictions on construction work, she is scheduled to return to her job in Livonia on Monday.

"I am excited to get back to work," Simone said, adding that she will continue to seek unemployment assistance for the remainder of this week. "I do have bills that I'm behind on at this point."

WHITMER

From page A1

make up 13 percent of the state's workforce. John Walsh, president and CEO of the Michigan Manufacturers Association, estimated that more than half were laid off because of the pandemic and the moves taken to slow the virus's spread.

He credited Whitmer for bringing together business and labor leaders "to ensure our workers can return to the job safely. The safety of our workers is our top priority, and I am confident that Michigan manufacturers are prepared to deliver on the worker protections included in today's order," he said.

The measure requires businesses to train their employees on using personal protective equipment, including wearing masks when they cannot consistently stay 6 feet from others. Face shields should be considered for those who are closer than 3 feet apart.

Michigan Office of the Governor via AP, Pool

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer addresses the state during a speech in Lansing on Thursday. Whitmer said that auto and other manufacturing workers can return to the job next week, further easing her stay-at-home order while extending it through May 28.

General Motors, Ford and Fiat Chrysler will reopen plants starting May 18. The Monday restart will "allow us to get an even further head start on resuming production," said Carl Beckwith, senior vice president of global operations for Dana Inc., a Toledo, Ohio, auto parts maker with three Michigan factories.

At least 25 employees at auto facilities represented by the United Auto Workers have died as a result of COVID-19, although it is not known if they were infected at work. The union said it wants as much testing as possible and a commitment to the full testing of workers as soon as it is available.

The plant closures have cut off almost all revenue for the automakers, which count the money when vehicles are shipped to dealers.

CRAZE VR

From page A1

can be photographed from every angle with 360-degree technology. Within 24 hours, a home listing can be ready for online showings.

Instead of having 25-30 people walk through a particular listing, Rutherford said their service can not only limit exposure, but also limit the disruptions for the home's current occupant.

Though the service was just launched, he said it has already proven to be popular among local real estate agents as bookings have begun.

"You basically feel like you are walking through the house. It can be used on a computer or mobile device," he said. "We use a virtual 360-degree camera that takes hundreds of photos at once and stitches them all together. It's almost like a video, but because it's multiple shots it gives the appearance that it is video."

Don Campbell / HP staff

Mark Rutherford, owner of CrazeVR in St. Joseph, uses an Insta360 One X cameras to create virtual tours of homes and businesses.

Rutherford said businesses in several industries can be toured and promoted through this service as well, allowing customers to safely view available inventory.

Among their clients have been real estate agencies, bed and breakfast homes and construction companies.

Rutherford said he and his wife attended a conference in Las Vegas in March to learn how to create virtual tours. The timing was surreal as the conference ended early and the Rutherfords had to return to Southwest Michigan.

"We started doing this before things started shutting down," he said.

Their first client was a construction company that hired them to take floor shots since workers at the time were limited on what could be done.

Next came a bed and breakfast in Baroda that wanted to give potential clients an idea of what renting a room there would look like.

Rutherford said they embed links, phone numbers and emails into the virtual tours so viewers can reach out to the respective business.

"Technology is awesome. It used to take days to do this, but our turnaround from taking the photos is one day," Rutherford said.

CrazeVR is located at 2560 S. Cleveland Ave. in St. Joseph. For more information on the company's newest service, visit www.crazevr.com.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @Tony Wittkowski

PLAN

From page A1

outbreak, the group has grown to more than 8,000 members.

Cornerstone Alliance President Rob Cleveland said the area's strengths in quality of life and tourism will aid in a quicker economic recovery.

"This plan addresses both the supply side of the equation by getting our workplaces ready, and the demand side of health and safety," Cleveland said. "A community such as ours is positioned for future growth, and the steps taken over the last two months show our community's proactive approach to helping local businesses in a time of need."

Cleveland said all the organizations have been in regular communication since March 13. However, the group came together on a conference call on Monday to discuss how to create a plan of action for businesses looking to reopen.

"There's information everywhere. We've all been very cognizant of it," Cleveland said. "That was the whole point in trying to deliver a concise message. You don't want people going to everyone's different website. All of us want the same things. So we chose to speak from the same voice."

Being prepared

The Berrien ReOpens plan is based on three lines of defense – limiting the number of people together at a time, sanitizing all areas, and requiring the appropriate personal protection equipment.

Under the plan, companies are recommended to have a plan of action before starting operations.

With the exception of health care workers, first responders and front-line staffers, most workers are considered at low- to medium-risk of exposure to the coronavirus.

The Berrien ReOpens plan also advises that each workplace have a coordinator or a task force in place to stay up to date on federal, state and local guidance, and to incorporate any changes.

"Everyone on the team is part of the plan and the responsibilities of having a safe workspace," the plan states. "All managers, supervisors and employees are part of the effort to minimize the risk of the virus."

The Centers for Disease Control and Occupational Health and Safety Administration set several guidelines that were highlighted in the plan.

The safety measures include:

- Frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If it is unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover all coughs and sneezes appropriately.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- While there is a community spread of COVID-19, maintain appropriate social distance of 6 feet.
- Team members should also report any symptoms – dry cough, fever and shortness of breath – they are feeling and keep workplace housekeeping and social distancing at all times.

Preventative measures

The Berrien ReOpens plan has put several best practices and measures in place to ensure the health and safety of workers, customers, visitors and the general public.

Several items are suggested under the following categories:

- Minimize exposure from co-workers by educating employees on protective behaviors, and sharing CDC information and providing the proper items.
- Practice social distancing, limiting in-person meetings and promoting remote work.
- Restricting team members who display symptoms of COVID-19.
- Encouraging sick employees to stay home.
- Actively encouraging employees to stay home if they have been in contact with a confirmed or suspected case of the virus.
- Employers will have a communications plan in place and work with the Berrien County Health Department and ensure record keeping.
- Perform increased routine cleaning and disinfection.
- Limit travel.
- Encourage remote work by employees who are at a higher risk.
- Limit visits from vendors and partners in person.

The Berrien ReOpens partnership will provide regular updates as information and conditions on the ground change. The Berrien ReOpen Plan is available at www.BerrienReopens.org.

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